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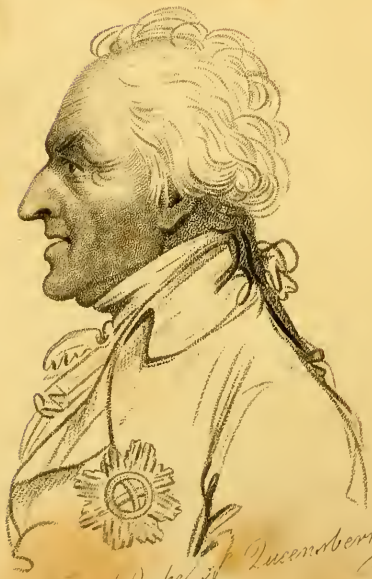
Mr. Angerstein:

Her Serene Highness
the Margravine of Anspach.

Sir Robert Peel.



The Duke of Queensberry.

PUBLIC

CHARACTERS

OF

1803-1804.

" ————I wish no other herald,
" No other speaker of my *living actions*,
" To keep mine honour from corruption,
" But such an honest chronicler."————

HEN. VIII. Act. 4. Sc. 2.

" ———— Hic nigræ succus loliginis; hæc est
" Æruginis mera; quod vitium procul afore chartis,
" Atque animo prius, ut si quid promittere de me
" Possum aliud vere promitto."

HORACE, Sat. i. 4. 100.

London:

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1804.

[*Price Half a Guinea in Boards.*]

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PREFACE.

WE now present the Public with the sixth volume of a WORK, which, if we are to judge from the rapidity of the sale, and the number of editions, has enjoyed an uninterrupted career of popular favour since its first appearance in 1798.

The lives, as usual, are drawn up by different pens, and the Editors have applied on this, as on former occasions, to such persons as appeared most capable of affording them the means of obtaining correct information.

Other collateral sources have also been recurred to, and neither trouble nor expence has been spared to obtain such a continuation of the PUBLIC CHARACTERS of the Empire, as is calculated to satisfy curiosity, without gratifying malevolence.

November the 20th, 1803.

ERRATA.

At page 396, line 20, for *Pageli*, read *Fuzeli*; and for *Parner*, read *Porter*.

At page 401, line 1, for *His second wife, a beautiful, &c. &c.* read, *His second wife was the widow of —— Lucas, Esq. His son is married to a beautiful and amiable young lady, the daughter of William Lock, Esq.*

At page 402, line 5, for *George*, read *David*.

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PUBLIC CHARACTERS

1803-1804.

SIR ROBERT PEEL, BART. M. P.

AN author of great celebrity has observed, that if the actions of private life were oftener detailed, they would profit the generality of society more than the splendid exploits of heroes, which they can seldom appreciate, and perhaps never hope to imitate. To bring before the tribunal of the public its benefactors, who have contributed to promote the prosperity of their country, to enlarge the sum of human happiness, in the field, in the senate, or in the sciences, is the delightful province of the biographer. And although it be no less his *duty* to hold up to public abhorrence, as beacons stationed to warn the mariner of danger, those who have raised for themselves monuments of infamy; yet so ungrateful is the task, that rather than fix his eye on the dark shade with the intenseness necessary to the investigation of character, he not unfrequently consigns them, from motives of pure charity, to oblivion.

The attempt to delineate *living characters*, and to

appreciate their talents and labours, is attended with fewer difficulties than is usually imagined: for although the passions of hope and fear may sometimes warp the judgment, yet prejudice cannot very much distort, or panegyric embellish the portrait, while the original is every day before the eye of the public, proving the fidelity, or impeaching the integrity of the painter.

If to have contributed materially to the commercial prosperity of his country, as well as to have devoted a considerable part of a very active life to the duties of a senator, be titles to public consideration, the following will be no unworthy accession to the PUBLIC CHARACTERS of this country.

Sir Robert Peel, Baronet, of Drayton Manor, in the county of Stafford, and member of parliament for the borough of Tamworth, is the third son of the late Robert Peel, Esq. of Peelcross, in the county of Lancaster. He was born in the year 1750, and spent the earlier part of his life on this estate, where his father also first beheld the light of heaven, and which has for many generations been in the possession and borne the name of the family.

It has been often remarked, that the infancy of those who have by their subsequent merit risen to high consideration, has generally afforded an intimation of their future eminence. Very early in life, and while fortune appeared to shut the door of advancement against him, Sir Robert Peel entertained strong hopes of being the founder of a family, and at the age of fourteen, to the great entertainment of his brothers, he

he avowed his determination to raise himself to rank and consequence in society; he bottomed these hopes on a conviction that any situation in this free country is accessible to a good capacity, aided by prudence and industry. The distinguished consideration in which he is now held, and the splendid fortune which he enjoys in landed and personal property, afford a striking instance of the effects of persevering industry in a country, where such exertions have the encouragement and support of good laws, impartially administered. A similar presentiment of their future elevation, with prospects not more favourable, is said to have impressed the minds, and to have been avowed by more than one of those prelates who at this time fill the episcopal chair with so much credit to themselves and the church.

It is universally admitted that Sir Robert Peel gave early proofs of uncommon quickness of perception, and betrayed an impatience of being excelled, for when a boy he could little brook a superior. Hence probably arose that spirit in his enterprizes, and that perseverance in habits of industry, in which he seems never to have felt fatigue: and as Genius, when she listens to cautious counsels, never fails of success, so he appears to have steered clear of those reverses which usually accompany even those who prove ultimately fortunate.

The cotton trade was at this period (1770) but a very inconsiderable branch of commerce, although the late ingenious Sir Richard Arkwright had made some happy discoveries in the application of mecha-

nical powers to the abridgment of manual labour. But the blind hostility of the common people to every species of machinery tended to throw considerable difficulties in the way of such improvements, and actually impeded them for a time; however, the perseverance of the manufacturers finally triumphed over this desolating zeal: a fortunate event for the future employment of thousands, as the success of an enterprize of great national importance depended on those very improvements against which their vengeance was so ignorantly directed.

The father of Sir Robert Peel possessed intellectual faculties in an eminent degree acute. Without the advantages of scholastic knowledge, his shrewdness of observation and accuracy of judgment placed him far above many, who although better educated, yet were not so bountifully endowed by nature. With a numerous progeny of seven sons and a daughter, and strongly impressed with the opinion that happiness as well as prosperity was best promoted by brotherly intercourse, fenced round by family connections, it became his early intention to establish them in a trade so circumstanced, as to afford the best prospect of success to ingenuity, industry and enterprize; and by pointing out different branches accommodated to the different faculties which early marked their respective characters, he lived to enjoy the enviable happiness of seeing his children prosper in situations agreeable to themselves, and beneficial to their country, in the different branches of the cotton trade; branches greatly dependent on each other,

and

and much assisted by well founded attachments and mutual confidence. Thus established, and with their separate departments severally assigned to them, they have, without exception, enjoyed a degree of success highly honourable to themselves, and advantageous to the community.

The comparatively rude state of this infant trade at that time, furnished a wide field for the display of the inventive faculties and persevering industry of Sir Robert Peel. He devoted himself very early to explore the powers of mechanical combinations, particularly where they could be converted to the use of his leading pursuit. Genius, naturally ardent, and frequently desultory, often loses by its volatility the reward of its merit, and too often sacrifices the attainment of the end proposed, by an impatience of restraint and an impetuosity of pursuit. It is only when controled by prudence, yet stimulated by laudable ambition, that the acmé of its attainments baffles all calculation.

Sir Robert Peel soon became sensible of the improvements of which machinery was susceptible, as applied to the purposes of commerce; and the success which has rewarded his labours, proves the correctness of this opinion, and is an encouraging instance of the potency of talents when united with prudence and industry.

It is the general complaint of commercial men that a liberal education renders the drudgery of trade irksome to youthful minds; that literary pursuits destroy all taste for pursuits of profit; and that to explore the

intellectual mines of Greece and Rome gives disrelish to the attainment of wealth, through the medium of industry. Whether the father of Sir Robert Peel was influenced or not by these impressions is immaterial: certain it is, that he early initiated his sons in habits of industry. Under the roof of this parent, not otherwise distinguished than by his assiduity and talents, with pre-eminence rendered amiable by conciliatory manners, and disdaining the indulgence of indolence, *pollens vicibus, ingenio validus, non se luxui neque inertiæ corrumpendum dedit: et cum omnes gloria anteiret, omnibus tamen carus esse,* Sir Robert Peel continued to the twenty-third year of his age: at which time, unrivalled in that particular trade, in which his attention had been principally engaged, he was deemed to possess very considerable knowledge of commerce in general, considered in a national point of view, as a pamphlet which he wrote not long afterwards on the national debt proves.

Prosperity owes its success chiefly, perhaps, to a quick discernment of prominent occurrences, which it seems peculiar to talents sometimes to originate, but more frequently dexterously to appropriate to themselves:

> "There is a tide in the affairs of men,
> Which taken at the flood leads on to fortune;
> Omitted, all the voyage of their life
> Is bound in shallows and in miseries.
> On such a full sea are we now afloat:
> And we must take the current when it serves,
> Or lose our ventures." SHAKESPEARE.

The

The period when a young adventurer, committing himself to his own guidance, first launches on the ocean of hope, is very interesting and important: sensible of the variableness of the winds, and of the treachery of the smooth surface on which he sails, he pushes his vessel from the shore with a trembling hand; but although clouds and storms sometimes obscure the horizon, yet while industry presides at the helm, and discretion is his polar guide, he will rarely fail to perform the voyage of life with tolerable success.

It was at this period, to which the recursive eye which contemplates his life is frequently turned, that Sir Robert Peel, leaving his paternal habitation, first pruned his wings and attempted to fly. In conjunction with William Yates, Esq. a gentleman of the most benevolent and equable manners, he embarked in an extensive cotton-manufactory at Bury, in Lancashire; a partnership which has since continued with a harmony and success, that very rarely falls to the lot of such engagements.

After fourteen years of silent industry, and we may add, of uninterrupted success, an event took place more connected with his future domestic happiness than with his public eminence, and which no doubt contributed in the most endearing manner to cement a connexion, as fortunately commenced as happily continued. On the 8th day of July, 1787, Sir Robert Peel received at the altar the hand of the amiable Miss Yates, the present Lady Peel, the daughter of his partner, then little more than seventeen years of

age; and although his table has been already surrounded with olive branches nearly as numerous as years have since elapsed, so profuse has Nature been of her endowments, that notwithstanding this amiable female has been the mother as well as the nurse of eleven very fine children, she yet appears but the eldest sister of the family.

It has often been a question of surprize, at what time, and by what means, Sir Robert Peel acquired those intellectual attainments, which he has since manifested; and the same answer, and with equal truth, has been given in this as in many other instances, that the powers of genius require not the plodding industry of common capacities. But whatever facility a quick mind, eagerly bent on its favourite object, may give to the acquisition of ideas and to the comprehension of truth; yet application and industry are indispensable to literary acquirements. For, could we distinctly mark the various sources of reading and instruction of a Shakespeare or a Chatterton, we should find that all is not intuition. The contemporaries of his youth are unanimous in their testimony, that he discovered a precocious attachment to books, and an insatiable thirst of knowledge. In his early as well as his more mature years, even when his commercial concerns were most urgent, he rarely omitted to devote some part of every day to reading. As the rude figure yields only to the plastic hand of the patient artist, and the landscape rises into existence by the daily exercise of the pencil,

"Nulla dies sine linea;"

so

so they only who have toiled and laboured in the acquisition of science can hope for the rewards of a well informed mind :

> Qui studet optatam cursu contingere metam,
> Multa tulit fecitque puer, sudavit et alsit. Hor.

The hours that others dissipated under pretence of recreation, were employed by him in books, and the midnight lamp incessantly witnessed the patient labour with which he cultivated his intellectual faculties. The plan of reading which he early prescribed to himself, and which he has never discontinued, was as judicious as it was singularly adapted to give originality and quickness to his perceptions: a plan which he not only recommended his children to pursue, but daily trains them in the practice of. His eldest son, a youth of the most promising talents, who is little more than fifteen years of age, has been so much in the habit of exercising the retentiveness of his memory, conformably to this method, that very few indeed of his age can carry with them more of the sentiments of an author than himself. When he reads a portion of a book, closing the volume, he immediately rétraces the impressions which were made on his memory; and the mind, we know, when conscious that it is to reflect the images presented to it, embraces them with avidity, and holds them with more than common tenacity.

The first literary essay attempted by the subject of these memoirs, was a pamphlet published in 1780 on the national debt. The ingenuity and novelty of the inferences maintained in that work excited consider-

able

able attention ; and although they might then appear paradoxical to superficial minds, yet every subsequent year has more and more confirmed the truth of them. At the close of the American war, the fears of the nation were very powerfully excited by the vast increase of our funded debt: and the commercial part of the community suffered more than any other body of men, from apprehensions that our increased burdens would soon fetter our exertions, if not ultimately involve the nation in bankruptcy. Sir Robert Peel very early discovered, and, if we are not mistaken, was the first to maintain, that the national wealth was not diminished by the increase of the national debt, and that statesmen had misconceived its operations by confounding a public with a private engagement.

With a view to correct this radical error, as well as to remove the apprehensions of the timid, and to restore confidence in the people, in respect to their own resources, he published his thoughts, under the title of "The National Debt productive of National Prosperity." He seems at that time to have stood almost alone in this novel opinion: but as the subject has since become better understood, and his arguments have derived strength from subsequent occurrences, the generality of men view with more complacency the present state of the nation, although the debt has been nearly *trebled* since the pamphlet appeared. In this work he maintained, that a domestic public debt, owed by the community at large to a part of the same community, cannot impair the aggregate wealth of that community: and that if a given sum, however large,

large, was annually raised from the people, to pay the interest of the debt, the same sum being received by the public creditors, and laid out in the purchase of articles of necessity and comfort for themselves, provided by national industry, circulates at home, and in its transit from one possessor to another, gives birth to new sources and modifications of wealth.

The first instance of Sir Robert Peel's turning his attention to landed property was about the year 1787, in the purchase of a considerable estate in Lancashire. This was followed, in the course of a very few years more, by extensive acquisitions in Staffordshire and Warwickshire. Having thus realized a large landed property, which has been since augmented by several additions, he obtained that stake and consideration in his country, which entitled him to a seat in the legislature. Accordingly at the following general election, in the year 1790, he was returned member for the borough of Tamworth.

We have now traced the progress, and followed the steps, by which Sir Robert Peel, with circumspect and unremitting diligence, climbed the hill of prosperous fortune, surmounting every barrier opposed to his ascent. At every successive elevation the prospect brightens, and the horizon expands itself: the path gradually widens, and the footing becomes more secure; until the attainment of the summit, from the comprehensive view which its eminence commands, inspires a variety of reflections of the most consolatory kind on the powers of the human mind. To watch the rise and progress of genius, resting on its own resources:

resources: to observe its struggles with, and conquest of difficulties, affords the most interesting contemplation: to witness a *living instance* of a strong natural conception, directed by a discriminating judgment, and inspired by laudable ambition, aspiring to the most enviable distinctions, and, independent of foreign aid, fully realizing them, awakens the ardour of emulation in the most sluggish bosom.

> Nam genus et proavos, et quæ non fecimus ipsi,
> Vix ea nostra vocò." OVID.

The constitution of that country must be admirably formed, and duly administered, which, without respect of persons, or distinction of birth, by holding out its rewards to the industrious, and by dispensing its honours to the meritorious, stimulates the industry, and excites the creative energies of men of talents.

"Nec obsit, quod in tenui labor: neque enim nisi ex minimis fiunt magna: et ex judicii consuetudine, in rebus minutis adhibita, pendet sæpissimè, etiam in maximis, vera atque accurata scientia."
PRÆF. FOST. DE ACC.

Tamworth, for which borough he was now returned member, had long enjoyed a considerable trade in the clothing-manufacture; but yielding to more successful rivals in Yorkshire, was at this time reduced to the lowest ebb. Yet, as if warmed by the rays of a more genial climate, it seemed now to feel its energies revived, and to be awakened to increased exertion. Extensive cotton-works were immediately erected, and the inhabitants soon began to resume their habits of industry, and to exhibit once more the smiling aspect of plenty. This town, which had been usually

usually deemed to possess a considerable share of independence, if not of caprice, in the choice of its members, as the fortunes and disappointments of some *living characters* can testify, is at present, by the deserved popularity of Sir Robert Peel, happily rescued from the opprobrium of corruption, and from the fatal effects of those obstinate oppositions, which had disgraced so many of its former elections.

The conduct of Sir Robert to his constituents has been uniformly that of a manly and constitutional senator: trusting that the independence of his conduct in parliament, and his unremitting attention to their general interests, would secure the approbation of the wise and discerning, he seems never to have availed himself of that influence which his fortune enabled him to exert. The obligations of representatives and constituents are reciprocal; the one disinterestedly to elect, the other faithfully to serve. That candidate conforms very little to the spirit of our excellent constitution, who, respecting not the unbiassed freedom of choice in the people, condescends to temporize with the selfish, and truckle to the corrupt. Nothing can exceed the unanimity of his elections: an unanimity which is as honourable to his constituents as it is flattering to himself, being founded on the universal satisfaction which they have testified in respect to his conduct in parliament. Integrity and independence of character have a natural tendency to excite the secret homage of mankind. The good avow their respect for merit; and the vicious cannot help reverencing what they cannot imitate.

tate. The repeated invitations which he received at the last general election, in 1802, to represent one of the most populous commercial boroughs in the kingdom, and the universal regret which his old constituents expressed at the bare suggestion of this event, sufficiently demonstrate the universal approbation which his public conduct has merited.

At the commencement of the French revolution, Sir Robert Peel appears to have hailed with satisfaction the dawn of a temperate reformation and emancipation of an ingenious people from the fetters of despotism; but when the day began to lower, and virtue and intelligence to be sacrificed to the turbulence of ambition, he very early perceived the fatal direction which the revolution had taken; and sensible that a fever generating daily so much malignancy in the neighbourhood of our own shore, would require every measure of precaution to secure us from its contagious influence, he gave his whole support to the late ministry in all their important measures. The basis of his political opinions during the recent eventful war, as they appear in his speeches and conduct in parliament, may probably lie in the following proposition: that nothing could more effectually preserve this country from experiencing the same fatal calamities, which the revolution entailed on France, than an uniform and strenuous support of the executive government. But although no man more steadily supported the energetic measures of the constitutional council, or more liberally encouraged the spirited exertions of the nation, yet as few possessed greater considerations involved

involved in it, so no man more cordially rejoiced at the termination of the contest.

To the transcendent talents and incorruptible integrity of Mr. Pitt, Sir Robert Peel has indeed ever borne the highest testimony; and the support he gave his long administration was steady and unequivocal in all great national measures: but this adherence, it should seem, arose more from a wish not to embarrass the hands of government in times of difficulty, than from a blind attachment to party; for he occasionally expressed his disapprobation, and evinced his independence, by giving his vote against the Minister. In the debate on the 7th of May, 1802, when a feeble attempt was made to impeach that distinguished statesman, Sir Robert Peel's appeal to the feelings and recollection of the house was so strong, and he described, in so impressive a manner, the protection and extension which commerce had experienced under his administration, amidst circumstances peculiarly hostile to foreign intercourse, that a subscription was opened in the city the day following, and he was himself one of the most liberal subscribers, to erect a statue of Mr. Pitt, expressive of the lively sense entertained of his services, and to convey to the world a lasting mark of the gratitude of the nation; which if not occasioned, was greatly promoted by this speech.

In the voluntary contributions of 1797, Sir Robert Peel stood unrivalled in patriotic liberality. In that triumphant list we find the unadorned names of Mess. Peel and Yates subscribed for *ten thousand pounds*; and it

it is very well known, that had a disposition proportionally liberal shewn itself in other individuals of the community, equally competent, the sum, as was originally intended to have been subscribed by this family, would have been *forty-five thousand pounds*. How proud a day was that for Lancashire, to witness one of her own sons, who, having availed himself of the combined local advantages which she possesses, had acquired a princely fortune, devoting the fruits of his labours with unbounded liberality to support the independence of his country!

In 1798, besides the large contributions he made, and the powerful patronage extended to the Lancashire fencibles, and the Tamworth armed association, he placed himself at the head of a corps of volunteers, consisting of *six companies*, mostly of his *own artificers*; and if ever officer possessed the hearts of his soldiers, it was the lieutenant colonel commandant of the Bury loyal volunteers. The spirited energy of a patriot, softened by the paternal solicitude of a master, breathe in every sentiment of the very impressive address he made to his corps at the consecration of their colours.

"I should be extremely wanting (says he) in justice to you and to my own feelings, if I did not embrace this opportunity of testifying the high sense entertained by myself and brother officers of your soldier-like behaviour and good conduct. At a time when the British shores are menaced by a hostile invasion; when our rapacious enemies, enemies alike of the cottage and the palace, thirsting for our blood and treasures, and anticipating the promised destruction of our religion, government, and commerce, are appointing task-masters to be stationed in our work-shops, to seize the fruits of our industry, and to fetter us in perpetual bondage, a new spectacle presents itself, appalling to the slaves of despotism.

Men

Men forced into military service by the terror of the guillotine were palsied at the sight of British volunteers, serving their sovereign without pay; of peaceable citizens converted into soldiers; of the industrious mechanic supporting his family by labour in the day, and learning the use of arms by night: this spectacle dissipated every apprehension at home, and penetrated with despair the hirelings of ambition.

"Having the honour of being placed at the head of this highly respectable corps, and considering you as a part of my own family, allow me to call your attention to the discharge of those duties which our new engagements have rendered indispensable. Continue a regular attendance at the places appointed for your exercise: associate not with the vicious, but having raised yourselves to a situation commanding respect, continue to deserve it by your conduct. Attend to your officers, and you will ever experience from them a return of kindness and friendship. With regard to myself, I wish to be considered rather as your *parent* than *commander*; and in your sickness and distress, I shall ever feel happy in affording every assistance in my power to yourselves and families."

The patriotic spirit of *volunteer service* to resist the menaced invasion, which this year pervaded all ranks of Britons, is a glorious and triumphant page in the history of the late war. It was a spark which was no sooner kindled in one part of the island, than the flame of it penetrated to the other. This loyal enthusiasm merited and obtained the confidence of the Sovereign, who, feeling himself enthroned in the hearts of his people, unreservedly opened his armoury; while Britannia sat undismayed on her immoveable rock, surrounded by a nation of soldiers: protected by a rampart so impregnable, she smiled at the menaces of invasion uttered by her foes.

Although impelled by imperious necessity to assume the military character, Sir Robert Peel is yet an

enemy to war, as hostile to every moral and religious sentiment, and destructive of the best feelings of our nature. To witness the nations of the earth cultivating the blessings of peace, and the European powers mutually conceding considerations of small moment, and reciprocally endeavouring to revive the confidential habits of commercial intercourse, must be the wish of every friend to his country. Commerce, so far from being "a spot on the vestal's robe," is favourable to the cultivation of the virtuous feelings of the heart, and contributes remotely to the improvement of the faculties of the mind; for by interchange of good offices, mutual confidence is inspired, and the productions of different nations are reciprocated: by the collision of different manners, the remotest nations are conciliated, and the more barbarous gradually refined: emulation in scientific pursuits, and in the cultivation of the fine arts, is every where excited, and the general situation of the human race is in a state of progressive amelioration. *Plains unbounded, waving with the gifts of harvest, seas with commerce thronged, and busy ports with chearful toil,* is every nation's bulwark, and every people's glory. Under the bowers of peace are indulged the most animating assurances of future prosperity; and there the harmony of Nature's works is felt. Under a more peaceful order of things, the active principle in human nature would take a more favourable direction; and, instead of cultivating the science of human destruction, we might expect to see new energies of mind called forth, and nations striving for pre-eminence

nence in the pursuits of literature, and in the efforts of ingenuity and peaceful industry, thus founding their fame in enlarging the capacities of human comfort; a contest as worthy of the enlightened age in which we live, as of the religion which we profess; and with this peculiar advantage attending it, all parties would be successful.

The next event in which we find Sir Robert Peel taking an active part, was the union with Ireland. This measure received his decided support; and being at the head of a large body of manufacturers, and himself deeply interested, his countenance had the best effect in this country. He lamented, however, that the luminous mind of Mr. Pitt could not exercise its full scope, and that, in order to secure his primary object, he felt it necessary to make some concessions to the prejudices of the people in Ireland. By an union of the capacities and exertions of both countries, great commercial advantages would have been derived to the empire. But a free intercourse was forbidden, and they are doomed to remain some years longer parted by restrictive laws and oppressive duties. In the debate on this question in the house of commons, Feb. 14, 1799, after some observations, which regard to consistency induced him to make, he thus continued:

SIR,

"In the year 1785, during the discussion of the Irish arrangements, as they were called, I was a petitioner at your bar against those arrangements with Ireland; and I am warranted in saying, that I carried with me the sentiments of a great proportion of the trading interests of England. The object of those propositions was

to open a freer intercourse betwixt two independent kingdoms; the one possessing great foreign dominions, and an universal commerce; the other possessing no foreign dominions, and very little trade; and, consequently, enjoying separate intereſts, as they always must, while they have separate legislatures; because they may become separate, in fact. It was apparent, then, that those arrangements, however well intended, would have been prejudicial to the manufactures of Great Britain. The support I have given the present measure, does not arise from a change of sentiments, but of circumstances. This plan embraces great advantages, both political and commercial, which, by uniting two countries into one country, are calculated to add ſtrength and security to the Empire; and is so essentially necessary at this time, when a daring attempt has been made, both by intrigue, and force, to separate the countries, that inferior considerations ought not to weigh against a plan, which bids fair to frustrate such attempts, and to consolidate both the interest, and affections of the sister kingdoms. By an union we shall become one people; and though the benefits in a commercial point of view, will be chiefly enjoyed by Ireland; yet, if an opinion may be formed of the sentiments of the trading body of this nation, from their patriotic and respectful silence, a disposition is manifested to reach out a friendly arm to their distressed brethren, to raise them from their present unhappy state to a condition of ease and comfort similar to our own. This conduct does the British merchants and manufacturers so much honour, that I feel particular pleasure in classing myself amongſt that highly valuable and respectable body of men.

"Though a friend to the principle of the measure, I think it my duty to draw the attention of the house to the sixth resolution. It must be the intention of every one to place both countries on an equal footing; and though nothing can be apprehended unfavourable to this country, during the present low circumstances of Ireland, it may have an operation, at a future time, highly prejudicial to our domeſtic industry. Each country is to provide for its own public debt; and that of Great Britain being infinitely larger than the debt of Ireland, heavy taxes are necessarily imposed on almost every article of consumption, which has so strong a tendency to enhance the price of labour, that goods manufactured under such a

pressure,

pressure, cannot be rendered on equally low terms with the produce of labour in places where similar burdens do not exist. Unless this objection be removed, the measure cannot be expected to have the concurrence of Great Britain. I feel it the more necessary to urge this point, having perceived a want of that liberality in the Irish government, which characterizes our own. The commercial intercourse now subsisting betwixt the two countries, has lost every feature of reciprocity; British manufactures being heavily taxed on their admission into Ireland, whilst the goods of that kingdom meet with every encouragement here. Whatever may be the conduct of Ireland respecting the proposition of an union, I trust the firmness of administration will be such, as to refuse all concession to menace and intrigue; and that the aid which may be deemed necessary to extend in future to that nation, will be received as the genuine offspring of affection: I always will oppose the giving much for nothing, when demanded as a matter of right.

"Having said thus much as a commercial man, I beg the further indulgence of the house as a member of Parliament; though it may be deemed presumption in me to speak on a subject which has engaged the first abilities in this house, and after a display of talents on both sides which never were exceeded. I see, with satisfaction, distinguished members of opposition in their places; because I think that their attendance on great constitutional questions, induces discussions highly useful and gratifying to the nation. I cannot, however, compliment them on the grounds they have taken in the present debate. The interests of Great Britain are so deeply involved in this question, that I did expect the nature, and extent, of the sacrifices to be made on our part would have been strongly laid down, and formed such a contrast to the imperial advantages so forcibly stated by the friends of administration, as to have enabled the house to come to a matured decision on the subject. Not having been so assisted, my first impressions are unaltered; and therefore I shall give the measure my continued support. The independence of the Irish legislature having been unequivocally acknowledged by ministers, as it had been by Parliament, and strenuously insisted on by the other side of the house, I am the more surprised to find, that the measure of union has

been debated by the latter on Irish interest only, as if the question were finally to be disposed of here, without being argued elsewhere.

"There are scarcely two opinions in this house, respecting the utility of an union at a proper time, and on fair and equitable terms: though several gentlemen have expressed their marked disapprobation of the measure at this period. Considering the state of Ireland, with a weak government, a disunited people, and with the standard of rebellion erected in many parts of it, this plan is calculated to remove such alarming disorders; and the sooner the remedy is applied the better.

"The manner of bringing forward the resolutions is deemed objectionable. Several gentlemen are of opinion, that they ought first to have been submitted to the Irish parliament, before they had experienced a discussion here. If the union involved in it sacrifices to be made exclusively on the part of Ireland, the complaint would have been just: the contrary, however, being the case, and the concessions confined to Great Britain, such a proceeding would have been highly disrespectful and injurious to this country.

"The feelings of pride and national consequence have been awakened in Ireland; they cannot reconcile themselves to the loss of their separate state, and distinct legislature: these are valuable privileges, boasted to have been acquired by their own exertion and patriotism, aided by the liberality of the British parliament. But let me ask, has not Great Britain likewise valuable privileges, purchased with the blood of our ancestors? A distinct kingdom, and an independent legislature? A people united, and removed, from every danger, either foreign or domestic? ——In forming, therefore, an imperial legislature, Ireland loses no rights which are not likewise surrendered by Great Britain: the distinct kingdoms will be mixed into one compact body, and thereby derive additional strength and security: Ireland will gain by the proposed Union, an *imperial* legislature, instead of a *local* legislature.

"The small proportion of Irish members forming a part of the imperial parliament is considered by many as a surrender of their independence. That an opinion so unfounded should be entertained by a stranger to the character and constitution of the British parliament does not excite much astonishment; but that it should meet with the smallest countenance from those who have uniformly declared,

declared, that any change in the Irish representation must be for the better, is, I own, a little extraordinary. Every member of this house is a representative of Great Britain, and does not consider his duties confined to the place for which he was chosen. Yorkshire and Lancashire are the most extensive and flourishing counties in England, though individually they are very inadequately represented. When, therefore, the two countries are incorporated, it will be both the duty and inclination of every member composing the imperial parliament, to promote the interest of Ireland equally with that of every other part of the united kingdom. Instead, therefore, of Ireland losing two-thirds of her members, she will increase the number from three hundred to six hundred and fifty-eight; and I shall not be contradicted in saying, if an union should take place, it will be one of their first duties to administer relief, and ameliorate the condition of the people of Ireland, to communicate to them British comforts, and make them as flourishing and happy, as the people of Great Britain are, from enjoying the benefits of a more liberal system.

"The remarks of the honourable member who spoke first (Mr. Hobhouse) respecting an increase of absentees, merits particular notice. I am ready to admit, to the fullest extent, the injury which has already resulted to the sister kingdom, from this circumstance. In a country, however, governed by equal laws and a free constitution, I see no practicable means of compelling a residence, or removing the existing evil, under the present order of things. The proposed union will have an effect the very reverse of that on which the honourable Gentleman founds his opposition. Scotland, and the parts of England most remote from London, sustain no injury on account of people of rank and property spending a great proportion of their time and income in the capital. Manufactures, and other considerable objects of labour, generally flourish most at a distance from the seat of luxury, and the gay pursuits of genteel life. The want of access to the money circulating in England keeps Ireland comparatively poor and unindustrious. When the British markets are, therefore, laid open, property sent from that kingdom will be returned through the medium of industry, by which an equilibrium will be restored.

"The mind, unaccustomed to embrace objects of immense mag-

nitude, will be assisted by a commercial intercourse. Suppose two houses in business, one of which is of the first respectability, with an immense capital, and extensive dealings in every part of the globe; the other in a comparatively low situation, with but little property, limited credit, and confined connections, and a proposal is made by the former, to take the latter into partnership on equal terms; such an offer never having been refused, we may easily suppose is eagerly accepted: in this case, each party will lose his distinct firm, and the two houses become one. It is unnecessary to ask here, on which side the advantage lies, though both may be benefited.

"The clamours raised against the Union by interested men in Ireland, may for a time mislead the judgment of many people; the delusion however cannot be of long continuance; and a proposition, the most liberal on the part of Great Britain, and on the acceptance of which the salvation of Ireland depends, must be received with sentiments of satisfaction, and gratitude, in the end, when reason shall take the place of passion; when policy shall prevail over prejudice; and wisdom shall govern, where enthusiasm misleads."

This speech, containing a body of plain and manly argument, came home "to the business and bosoms of the people" in both countries. It was circulated with much diligence in Ireland, and is said to have contributed, in a very considerable degree, to reconcile the measure on both sides of the Channel.

In the course of the following year, during the detail of this great national measure, Sir Robert Peel again solicited the attention of the house, and insisted strongly that the advantages which would accrue to Ireland, ought to render it an object peculiarly acceptable to the sister kingdom; that a poor cannot but be benefited by union with an affluent neighbour in free intercourse nd equal rights; that the indulgences

gences already allowed had, without impeding the prosperity of this country, contributed to the salvation of Ireland; that although the objections on this side of the Channel, in a commercial view, arose chiefly from the *woollen trade*, yet there was another branch of manufacture (the *cotton*) which, engaging as large a capital, and employing as great a number of hands, rivalled in importance this ancient staple of the country; and that, although the regulations respecting the cotton-trade had not been framed according to his wishes, and would materially affect his interests, yet as he would never bring his *individual* in competition with the *general* good, he would give his cordial support to the grand measure.

The magnitude of the national debt, requiring very heavy contributions to be levied on the people, imposes so arduous a task on the minister of finance, that without extensive knowledge of the resources of his country, he would be very ill qualified to discharge with effect this painful but necessary part of his duty. Sir Robert Peel, from the nature of his engagements, as well as from the spirit of enquiry with which he is endowed, has long been in the habit of turning his thoughts to the investigation of the finances of his country, particularly where they are connected with the subject of commerce. He insists that the revenue, so far from being benefited, is proportionally injured, whenever money is taken out of the hands of industry, whilst it is in an active and productive state. That the capital of an individual in trade may, on an average, produce to him 10*l.* per cent.

cent. per annum, and that the nation is at the same time deriving an advantage from the same capital equal to 50*l.* per cent.; that is, a property accrues to the nation yearly by the employment of a given sum in trade equal to one half of that sum; and that therefore to draw, and spend money from such a source, must either be done with the improvidence of a prodigal, or argue extreme inability in the financier.

A character of so much importance in the scale of society, who by industry and talents had raised himself to high consideration, and who, in amassing a princely fortune, had contributed so much, by the extension of a new branch of commerce, to the national prosperity, could not long elude the paternal eye of the Sovereign. Accordingly, on the 8th of Nov. 1801, we find his majesty conferring on him the title of baronet, as the meed of merit, *sua præmia laudi*; and as a mark of his majesty's approbation of the steady consistency, and unimpeached integrity, which had distinguished every part of his conduct both in public and private life. Distinguished merit is the characteristic of a "noble of Nature's own creating:" *virtus est optima nobilitas.* Sir Robert Peel is an eminent and exemplary instance of the *quisque suæ faber fortunæ*, and of the excellency of the constitution, under which men of talents and industry may advance themselves in life, and by consistency of conduct, and uniform endeavours to promote the best interests of the country, obtain distinguished honours, from the patriotic exercise of a virtuous Sovereign's prerogative.

If

If the origin of ambition be the desire, and the object of it the enjoyment of that pre-eminence, which gives dominion over the affections of mankind, it becomes a strong incitement to virtuous action. To be hailed by distant ages as benefactors, " to noble minds is honourable meed." To have lived for those who are to live, when we bend beneath the snow of years, or are gathered to our fathers: to awaken in the breast of remote posterity that glow of grateful affection, which hovers around the tomb of departed worth, and thus to transcend the narrow bourne of present existence, and have a name in future times, is the enviable privilege of genius, and the laudable object of honourable ambition.

The next public act of Sir Robert Peel developes more fully, perhaps, than any other the true complexion of his character, the pure benevolence which animates his bosom; we allude to the bill which he brought into parliament, in 1802, to " Ameliorate the Condition of Apprentices in the Cotton and Woollen Trade." Although human labour has been so much abridged by ingenious machinery, in the former of these branches of our commerce, yet the unprecedented increase which it has experienced within the last fourteen years, arising from these improvements, has given increased employment to many thousands of poor persons, mostly children taken from workhouses in the capital, and other parts of the country.

These children were a burden to their respective parishes; and in order to be relieved from the expence of subsisting and supporting the needy part of them

and

and their families, the overseers of the poor often forgot the tender offices of humanity, in their eagerness to exonerate themselves from the maintenance of these unfortunate infants. Accordingly they were frequently sent to factories, where no accommodation was provided for them, no attention paid to their morals, and where they often contracted infectious disorders, the consequence of excessive labour, of unwholesome food, and of the want of cleanliness. Sir Robert Peel had long lamented the existence of these evils, and it is one of the highest satisfactions of his life that he has been instrumental in lessening the sum of human misery. It has ever been his opinion, that children ought early to be habituated to industry, and, under proper regulations, might be taken from parts of the kingdom where no employment offers, to situations more favourable to commerce. Although in this country, where every social virtue is cherished, many instances have occurred of masters treating these parish-apprentices with parental care; yet it cannot be denied, that in their deserted condition, deprived of the tender solicitude of a mother, and bereaved of the protecting arm of a father, the motives of interest in the employer often blunted the best feelings of humanity, and made the patronage of these orphans and fatherless well worthy the benevolence of *that character*, whose pride it has ever been to befriend suffering humanity, and especially to place these helpless innocents within the peculiar protection of the law.

Sir Robert Peel had been long preparing the way for

for this general reform, by introducing salutary regulations into his own factories; limiting the hours of labour, that the growth of the children might not be impeded; providing them proper nutriment, insisting on the observance of cleanliness in their working-rooms, their persons, and sleeping apartments. He ever considered these unfortunate and deserted beings as a part of his own family, and felt it incumbent on him to afford them instruction, both religious and moral. He has, therefore, for many years employed masters in the working-rooms, to whom each apprentice reads at least one lesson every day. In this practice of uniting mental instruction with labour, by an inconsiderable daily sacrifice of time, his most sanguine wishes were realized. Supported by this experience, after meeting with opposition from some who were impatient of any restrictions, and from others whose feelings were more compassionate than their judgment was informed, he succeeded by perseverance in obtaining an act passed for the preservation of the health and morals of apprentices in the cotton and woollen factories. And, convinced of the practicability as well as utility by the experiment made by Sir Robert Peel, it is hoped that the legislature will extend its protection to other classes of the poor, and at once promote public good and individual happiness, by regulations adapted to their respective situations and pursuits.

The cotton-trade has been so frequently alluded to, and is under so many obligations to the talents of Sir Robert

Robert Peel, as well as an object of so much national importance, that it will require no apology for interweaving here a short abstract of its history. Lancashire is its emporium; and although the adjoining counties, and many parts of Scotland, participate in it, yet their combined amount is trifling, compared with its magnitude in the district to which we allude. Providence has not bestowed any large portion of fertile land on this part of the kingdom; but that deficiency has been amply compensated by abundance of coals, pure water, and powerful streams, without which factories cannot flourish. The barrenness of the soil is here concealed by the great number of handsome houses and neat cottages that attract the eye in every direction. Sir Robert Peel having engaged early in commercial pursuits, had acquired, when a very young man, not only a perfect knowledge of the various branches of the cotton-trade, but a very general acquaintance with the fundamental principles of commerce, in its broad scale, as a national concern.

This great object, inconsiderable on his first connexion with it, but seeming to grow with his growth, cannot but afford him a subject of just exultation, when he observes, that by the industry, ingenuity, and capitals employed in it, by himself and others, it is now become one of the great sources of national wealth and prosperity. But how enviable must be the enjoyment of his reflections, to witness the subsistence, affluence, and happiness diffused among the numerous families employed in his works, entrusted with

with his property, and participating of the fruits of his industry.* He seems to have considered the work-people employed by him as his partners, and would long since have withdrawn from these extensive concerns, had he not conceived himself of more essential service to the community, whilst so engaged, than he could possibly have been in the shades of retirement. How often has he been heard to say, that one of the greatest satisfactions of his life arises from the persuasion that thousands are more benefited than himself by the active state of his capital! The poor acquire through this medium every necessary and convenience which can contribute to human comfort: the master cannot enjoy more, and is incumbered with apprehensions and anxieties to which the former are strangers!

The extent to which the cotton-trade may be carried cannot perhaps be defined: the uses to which it is applied, and the various parts of the world into which it is introduced, have multiplied so rapidly, as to afford strong ground to hope that it has not yet grown much beyond the state of infancy. Its effects, in a national point of view, conduce so highly to the national prosperity, that our foreign rivals, deeply impressed with its importance, view its progress in this country with envy and regret. Timid minds only superficially acquainted with the various circumstances essential to success in it, have given way to unfounded fears of rivalship, and apprehend that we shall soon

* The number of persons employed by him is not fewer than FIFTEEN THOUSAND.

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lose our pre-eminence in this valuable traffic. Sir Robert Peel is remarkable for his confidence in the fallacy of these fears, contending that, as long as it receives the protection of government, it is fenced round with too many advantages to be easily diverted from its present channel. The nature, habits, and ingenuity peculiar to this country, are strong barriers which will never permit these suppositions to be realized. The liberal policy of this kingdom, and its free constitution, sanction, protect, and encourage men employing princely fortunes in trade, and enable them, with credit to themselves and advantage to the country, to push their commercial enterprizes to an extent unknown, and not to be attained in any other country. The capital employed in this trade, and in the different branches connected with it, and dependent upon it, is at least TWENTY MILLIONS STERLING; and the people engaged in and deriving support from it, are not fewer than EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND.

The rapid progress of the cotton-trade was greatly assisted by ingenious improvements, invented by the unrivalled talents of the late Sir Rich. Arkwright. But his complex machinery has been since so much simplified, and at the same time rendered so much more productive, so many improvements have been added, combined, and made to assist each other, that it now derives a great share of its practicable utility from the ingenuity of other hands. So circumstanced, so established and protected, have we any thing to apprehend from foreign rivalship? In the year 1780, the quantity

tity of cotton-wool imported into Great Britain amounted to *five millions* of pounds weight; but from the average of the last three years, it may be stated from *forty to fifty millions* annually. Very little of this immense quantity is exported in an unimproved state. Ireland is provided with a little, and small quantities are occasionally sent to the continent.

There are no documents by which can be ascertained with accuracy the value of cotton goods manufactured for home and foreign consumption. About *five millions* of pounds of twist, in a state partly manufactured, are annually exported to the continent and Ireland. Suppose every pound of cotton is worth, on an average, when imported, *eighteen pence*, and when consumed at home, or sent abroad in a manufactured state, that it is worth *eight shillings*, the advantage to the nation will not be much less than FOURTEEN MILLIONS STERLING ANNUALLY. How much of this immense sum reaches his Majesty's exchequer, through the medium of duties, and the consumption of exciseable commodities within the year in which the return is made, it is difficult to say, the only direct taxes being laid on cotton goods when printed, which are returned to the merchant on exportation. Sir Robert Peel's house pays upwards of FORTY THOUSAND POUNDS annually to the excise-office on printed goods.

When our local advantages are duly appreciated, as well as our knowledge, capital, and habits, it will be seen that this great national object affords a resource of a permanent nature, likely to increase, and

promises to operate powerfully in the commercial scale, so as to incline the balance of trade with other countries in favour of our own. Sir Robert Peel has uniformly opposed, in parliament, every attempt to lessen the consequence of the labour employed in producing articles of manufacture for foreign markets; and contended, that our maritime strength and amicable intercourse with foreign powers must be greatly promoted, by the number of seamen necessarily employed in such intercourse, and by our ability to accommodate the wants of foreign nations. There are many circumstances which render the supply of corn raised in the empire inadequate to its consumption: increased population is one; another, more preponderating, is the accumulated wealth of the country circulating freely through the different orders of society. Every man, under our excellent constitution, is at liberty, within his own means, to choose his own food, and the condition of the mass of the people being much improved, the consumption of animal food, which may be considered comparatively as a luxury, is greatly increased within the last twenty years. The quantity of grass-land has kept pace with it, and the plough has become proportionably inactive. This change is not to be regretted, whilst one individual, by his industry in manufactures, is able to procure for us from foreign storehouses, in exchange for his labour, as much corn as three men can raise by their united labour in farming districts; which is actually the fact.

In public life a man but very partially developes his character.

character. He steps forth from his retirement prepared to meet the eye of the world; and his actions having an ultimate reference to its approbation, every attitude is constrained, and every movement circumspect. It is only in the shade, in the daily occurrences of domestic occupation, that he throws off his disguise, and discloses his form and substance. Among his servants he appears in his undress: he neither simulates nor dissimulates before them. Investigate the avocations of the day, and go into the walks where his evenings are spent, if you would delineate the features of Truth and Nature.

Sir Robert Peel is in his person tall, manly, and well proportioned. His eye, when he speaks, lights up his countenance with peculiar animation. His address is affable, unembarrassed, and very engaging. Unaffected and unassuming himself, he possesses, in an eminent degree, the pleasing art of dispelling, unperceived, the diffidence of strangers, and by adapting himself with great facility to the circumstances of others, renders all pleased with his society, by rendering them pleased with themselves. Thus, the friend of merit, however humble and unadorned, he is equally disposed as competent to resist the insolence of oppression, and to mortify the arrogance of self-sufficiency.

In conversation he is very attentive and communicative, relishing extremely sallies of wit in others, and is not infrequently very happy himself in repartee. Although he has greatly improved his intellectual faculties, by an extensive acquaintance with books, par-

ticularly on the subject of the history, commerce, and constitution of his native country ; yet it is evident, that his mind has derived its chief advantages from an attentive observation of men and manners, which probably has not a little contributed to give novelty and originality to his ideas. Being much conversant with the world, and having had transactions with every class of society, he has acquired a very quick perception of human character, without imbibing the narrow prejudices and suspicious circumspection usually attendant on such various intercourse. Colloquial discussions on the phenomena of nature constitute his chief delight; and to an early habit of abstracting and generalizing his ideas, he unites the curiosity of a naturalist, and the eye of an acute observer.

Never disdaining to learn, and as little solicitous to conceal his ignorance, as unambitious to display his knowledge, whenever a new idea of importance is offered, his mind eagerly embraces it, and revolving and presenting it in different lights, seldom dismisses it until he has made himself perfectly master of, and perhaps improved it.

With concerns so extensive, branching out to such distant parts of the kingdom, it might have been expected that this multiplicity would have distracted and absorbed all his thoughts ; especially when it is considered, that the principal direction of one of the first concerns in Europe has been intrusted to his management. The more attentive observers discovered with astonishment that the different branches of the cotton-trade, usually engaging the attention and

and capital of five or six distinct houses, are united and brought into a focus by the admirable system founded on practical knowledge, which Sir Robert Peel originated, and from which he has never departed: a system so appropriate and simple, that this immense commercial machine is directed with ease, and the parts of which it is composed are so entirely fitted to each other, that each separately derives strength and utility from the rest. In fine, it has often been remarked with surprize, that always easy and unembarrassed, he betrays neither care nor anxiety.

Business carried on so successfully, and to such an extent, required the aid of men of talents; Sir Robert Peel has accordingly evinced considerable knowledge of human nature, in the choice he has made of the confidential persons he has attached to his concerns; and the considerable fortunes that have been made by them, unequalled in point of numbers and extent in any other private establishment in the kingdom, are unanswerable proofs of the merit of the agents, as well as of the liberality of the employer. Under such apparent pressure, the mind was but little fettered, and a considerable portion of time has been bestowed on intellectual pursuits. When the enterprizing traveller enters the unexplored desert, he requires the incessant exertion of his ingenuity and vigilance to discover and keep in the right path: conscious of the difficulties surrounding him, he looks on every side, and surveys the vast unknown with an anxious eye: the uncertainty of connections, the defalcation of friends, and

the treachery of servants, have deterred thousands from the attempt, or exposed them to certain failure. His first success, however small, is very encouraging to him: a dexterous escape from some precipices, and unremitting abstinence from some indulgences, which had proved fatal to others, inspire him with increasing confidence in himself; till having explored the dangerous way again and again, and become acquainted with all its bearings, he is enabled to point them out to others, and thus renders an essential service to a community interested in the discovery.

With the utmost liberality towards those who differ from him in religious opinions, Sir Robert Peel is the decided supporter of the established church. Sensible how much religion contributes to uphold the fair fabric of social order, he has given every encouragement, by liberal and undeviating example, to promote religious impressions among his work-people. By his regular attendance on divine worship with his numerous family of children and domestics, he also excites among his tenantry a more lively interest in their respective duties. When the superior classes of society, by their example, give consequence to the *decencies of religion*, and manifest themselves a real and predominant solicitude to strengthen its hold upon the human heart, they promote more essentially the amelioration of the general mass, than by the endowment of hospitals, or the augmentation of the penal code. It is only when the nerve of virtue is relaxed among the great, that the contagion of vice descends with accelerated violence among the imitating

ing multitude. Every noble mind, therefore, feels it an incumbent duty to give support, by precept and example, to the interests of religion.

To detail all the private and public acts of benevolence, as well as the moral virtues, of Sir Robert Peel, would give this memoir too much the air of a panegyric;* which aspires only to be a collection of facts, from which the reader may draw his own inferences. As the merit by which he acquired made him worthy of his fortune, so the use which he makes of it, in communicating the means of comfort to all around him, exceedingly endears him to a very extensive circle, and makes him worthy of the honours which have been bestowed on him. Although he has long ceased to regard the accumulation of wealth as productive of happiness, except as the means of doing good, yet he has not lost the habit of minute attention to his finances. His mansion is the residence of hospitality, but unencumbered with any ostentatious display of retinue. He never retires into the impenetrable recesses of his house, inaccessible to the modest petitioner, and abandoning every species of exigence to the care of Providence; but his ear is at all times open to the suit of the meanest, and none ever retire from his gate before their wants have been listened to.

All public institutions of extensive utility find in Sir Robert Peel an active and powerful patron. Among others we distinguish the following: Christ's Hospital, of which he is a governor; the Literary

* Integritatem et abstinentiam in tanto viro referre injuria virtutum fuerit. Tac. Vit. Agric.

Fund, of which he is vice-president; and the Society for bettering the Condition of the Poor, the fund of which he augmented in the year 1801, by a donation of *a thousand pounds.* He has been lately chosen, in the most flattering manner, president of the House of Recovery in Manchester; and he makes annual donations of large sums to the poor of Tamworth, in Staffordshire, as well as to those of Bury, in Lancashire.

Among innumerable acts of benevolence which delineate a character in more forcible as well as intelligible colours, than any flourishes of the pencil, the following, as remarkable for the delicacy of the manner with which the value of benefits may be enhanced, as they are unparalleled for the substantial liberality with which enlarged benevolence can confer favours, deserve to be distinguished. A rectory on his estate having become vacant, he solicited the chancellor, with every prospect of success, to bestow it on the Rev. James Hargteaves, A. M. a gentleman every way worthy of his patronage, whose amiable manners conciliate the esteem of all who share his acquaintance. The seals, however, having been suddenly entrusted into the hands of commissioners, the desired appointment did not take place. But to alleviate the mortification of disappointment, Sir Robert Peel purchased for, and presented his friend to a living of equal value.

Three years have not elapsed, since a house of the first consequence in the cotton-trade, by imprudently extending its speculations beyond its capital, was, from some

some unforeseen circumstances, on the eve of bankruptcy. Informed of their pressing exigency, and convinced of the honour and integrity of the parties, Sir Robert Peel rescued them from their impending calamity, by an immediate loan of fourteen thousand pounds. Reluctant favours are ungracious, humiliating, and often render an obligation useless:

Gratia ab officio, quod mora tardat, abest.

But how affecting to a feeling heart are the grace and kindness with which promptness a thousand fold enhances the value of benefits! The seasonableness of this accommodation, more perhaps than its magnitude, effected their deliverance. There is also a dignified disinterestedness in this benevolent act, which the more it is considered, excites the greater admiration. This house had been long an obstinate rival to his own, and an opportunity now offered of witnessing its fall, and of rising on its ruins. But Sir Robert Peel, rather than elevate himself by the misfortunes of others, generously extended the hand of friendship, and nobly supported his competitor.

The affluent enjoy some privileges exclusively their own; of these the luxury of relieving distress is the most enviable. The widow's tears, and the orphan's prayers, are a feast of which they only participate in any considerable degree. It has been doubted, whether any virtues exist in those bosoms in which benevolence is a stranger: perfect they cannot be, and exalted they will never seem, whose hearts are not warmed with the "milk of human kindness." "Sweet mercy is nobility's true badge." As the confluence of

of drops makes up the "multitudinous ocean;" so the unremitting, but unostentatious "current of daily kindnesses, incessantly flowing and gliding in silent secrecy along the private walks of life, exciting neither the notice nor the applause of the world, pours an unobserved but copious tribute into the store of human comforts."

Very few (not four) years since, a family, consisting of two sons and three daughters, all whose property, which was very considerable, had been embarked in trade, was reduced, by adverse and unforeseen circumstances, to a complete wreck: the daughters having entrusted their property, which was not less than five thousand pounds each, to their brothers, participated in their misfortunes. Sir Robert Peel, with his characteristic liberality, respecting "the Corinthian pillar of polished society even in the dust," obtained an honourable and lucrative appointment for each of the sons, and presented a thousand pounds to each of the daughters!

These are plain unvarnished facts, which panegyric cannot embellish, nor malice attribute to unworthy motives. This is a species of benevolence, which publicity cannot gratify, nor the voice of fame flatter: with a noiseless and unostentatious industry it seeks the sequestered walks of misery, surprizes modest worth with unsolicited kindness, bids misfortune be comforted, and plucks from the bosom of sorrow the thorn of affliction. Escutcheons may emblazon, and monuments may vie with each other in perpetuating a name; but there is no inscription so eloquent as the

the silent finger of charity pointing to the noblest of all mausoleums, the "orphan paying a grateful visit to the grave of his benefactor, and dropping the tear of filial sorrow over the spot where his father sleeps."

Many other instances of delicate and liberal benevolence are here omitted, as much for the sake of the beneficiary as of the benefactor; and we shall here close our memoir, conscious that we have already placed before the eye of the public such a collection of facts, relative to his public and private life, as will enable every reader to form, perhaps, not a very inadequate estimate of the character of Sir Robert Peel.

HON. WILLIAM CORNWALLIS,

ADMIRAL OF THE BLUE, REAR ADMIRAL OF ENGLAND, AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE CHANNEL FLEET.

"VIRTUS VINCIT INVIDIAS."

NATURE has not only pointed out to individual animals, but even to whole societies of rational beings, the best means for achieving their protection and defence. To one nation she assigns broad and rapid rivers as boundaries, which may not be passed with impunity; to another, sands and deserts, where invading armies are doomed to perish by hunger, or by thirst; to a third, high and almost inaccessible mountains, which cannot be scaled without immense difficulty and danger on the part of the assailants.

To this highly-favoured country she has been eminently bountiful, not only by a felicitous disjunction from the neighbouring continent, but also by a position

position peculiarly suitable for navigation and commerce, and above all, by the intervention of the ocean, which, environing us on every side, points out that element on which we are best calculated to contend and to conquer.

This obvious truth has been known and acknowledged from the earliest periods of our history; but unhappily, until a recent epoch, it was not always steadily and uniformly acted upon. Our Edwards, and our Henrys, smitten with a love of glory, and swayed by the spirit of chivalry, rather than by the dictates of sound policy, conceived ridiculous pretensions in respect to foreign empire, and, as kings of England, wasted the blood of their feudal followers (for regular armies, as well as regular fleets, were then unknown), on purpose to attain a diadem, which would have rendered their native dominions a province to France! Even in latter times, statesmen, who never viewed the ocean but when contemplating it from their castellated mansions in the maritime counties, and never were borne on it, but while rapidly wafted in a packet across the straits of Dover, have been miserably ignorant in respect to the true strength, natural defence, and potent resources of our isle. Lifted to power, on the obsequious back of party, and retaining their exalted station by the display of a gaudy and unsubstantial eloquence, they forgot the genius of the nation which they were unhappily destined to rule, and, intoxicated with the cup of ambition, dreamed of achieving conquests on a new element.

But,

But, notwithstanding a few seductive exceptions, the history of all our wars, particularly the last, will evince that we ought to abstain from continental acquisitions, and that we are fitted, not for the empire of the earth, but of the ocean; that our victories on the former have been, for the most part, hollow and unsubstantial, and that it is by attending to our ships and our seamen; by supplying our dock-yards and our naval arsenals; by establishing and following an enlightened policy in respect to maritime affairs; and above all, by exhibiting ourselves the protectors, rather than the tyrants of the main, that we can either acquire or retain a permanent dominion.

The ocean then by which the British isles are surrounded, at once points out the sources of their wealth, their empire, and their defence. The oak, venerated during the times of druidical superstition, has been since dragged from the sacred groves, and launched into the sea; the inhabitants, leaving their native *woods, have built cities, founded universities, cultivated the arts and sciences, and rendered the new world, as well as the ancient continent of Asia, tributary to them. Their fleets now cover the channel and the Atlantick, while their flag waves in the Pacifick, and throughout the most distant seas; their manufactures are consumed not only in Europe, but in the remotest countries of the east; and the sun

* Oppidum Britanni vocant quum sylvas impeditas vallo atque fossâ munierunt, quo incursionis hostium vitandæ causâ convenire consueverunt. De Bello Gallico, lib. v. c. 21.

scarcely

scarcely rises on any land that does not confess the unrivalled workmanship of our artisans.

It would be curious to trace the sources and the progress of this mighty power, from its first dawnings to its present meridian splendour. At the epoch of Cæsar's descent, we find that the island was but little visited except by traders from the neighbouring continent, and it appears certain that the chief intercourse, anterior to this period, was kept up by means of small vessels from the opposite coast of Gaul. The Roman gallies, but a little larger than the Gravesend boats of the present day, doubtless appeared formidable to the astonished natives, who, unable to oppose them on an element in some measure consecrated to their posterity, nevertheless appeared ready to give battle to the invaders on the shore, and thus defend all that was dear to freemen.

The commerce that began to take place, during a later period, in Germany, enabled the inhabitants of the sea coasts contiguous to Britain to fit out a small fleet of transports for the conveyance of the Saxons, who from allies became conquerors; and in the time of Alfred, we find the Danes, then a nation of freebooters, infinitely superior to the inhabitants both in the art of navigation and in the size of their ships. But that great Prince may be justly considered as the founder of the British navy, for it was during his memorable reign that the first rudiments of a national establishment of this kind evidently took place.*

* It must be confessed, however, that at this period the navy of England was scarcely equal to the armaments fitted out by the inhabitants

But it was found impossible for the English, in the time of Harold, to cope with a petty Norman fleet of three hundred sail, and it was left solely to the issue of a battle by land, to decide the fate of the nation. During the reign of the first princes of that dynasty, which ascended the throne immediately after the Conquest, although ships were occasionally collected at London and the cinque ports for expeditions against France, yet at this period we cannot discover any thing worthy of the appellation of a royal navy.

The house of Tudor, however, deemed it necessary to pay greater attention to naval affairs; and the wise and judicious economy of Henry VII. enabled his son to become formidable both by sea and land. It was accordingly in the time of Henry VIII. that we find the first regular fleet, consisting chiefly of gallies, which, after scouring the Channel for some time under Sir Edward Howard, presented itself before Brest, after the manner of more recent times, and defied the French to single combat.

During the reign of his illustrious daughter, a new and a still more formidable enemy was to be encountered, in the person of Philip II. king of Spain, every part of whose extensive empire resounded with preparations for the invasion of England. The Marquis of Santa Croce, a sea officer of great reputation and ex-

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inhabitants of the South Seas: "We found some war-canoes of Otaheite (says Dr. Forster, in his Observations made during a Voyage round the World) that required one hundred and forty-four paddlers, eight men to steer, one to command the paddlers, and about thirty warriors for the fighting stage."

perience,

perience, was nominated to command the fleet, which, along with his benediction, had already received from the Pope the title of the "Invincible Armada," and consisted of one hundred and thirty large vessels, accompanied by twenty caravals, and ten salves, of a superior size to any that had hitherto appeared in Europe. Two thousand six hundred and thirty pieces of brass ordnance, of a large calibre, twenty thousand soldiers, eight thousand mariners, and two thousand galley slaves, tended to render this armament almost irresistible.

But the Queen of England and her gallant people, equally undismayed, prepared to meet and to defeat so formidable a force. Accordingly, while a squadron, consisting of forty small vessels, lay off Dunkirk, on purpose to intercept the Duke of Parma, who had assembled thirty-four thousand men in the Netherlands, and meditated a descent, by way of a diversion, on one side, a fleet of about thirty ships of war, under the admirals Lord Howard of Effingham, Drake, Hawkins, and Forbisher, the most renowned commanders of their age, being unable to contend in line of battle with vessels termed galleons, and which were larger and more lofty, as well as superior in numbers, guns, and weight of metal, hung upon their rear, and cut two of them off. Having then followed the main body up the Channel, the Lord Admiral, who had by this time received an accession of strength from different ports, determined to give battle, and the victory that ensued proved decisive of the safety of England, and the valour and experience of her seamen and commanders.

On the accession of the house of Stuart, the arts of peace began to be cultivated, and the long and happy reign of James I. although it added not to the celebrity of England, by either naval or military achievements, yet contributed not a little to promote her wealth, and extend her commerce. The civil wars, during the reign of his son Charles I. chiefly engaged the attention and occupied the resources of the nation; but, during the ephemeral existence of the commonwealth, the English fleet, in conjunction with that of Holland, sailed into the Baltic, and restored the peace of the north; while an expedition fitted out for the West Indies, in the time of the protectorate of Cromwell, seized upon Jamaica, and laid the foundation of the power of Britain along the distant shores of the Atlantick.

On the restoration, the dock-yards were regulated, and a fixed establishment was, for the first time, concerted and adopted. Our ships also began to be built according to scientific principles, and James II. who had served at sea during the preceding reign, was the first who created a code of signals, continued to be followed, indeed, until our own time, when they were improved, or rather superseded, by those of the admirals Howe, Kempenfelt, &c.

At the epoch of the revolution the British fleet appeared paramount; but Louis XIV. by a most extraordinary exertion, suddenly fitted out, or rather created a navy, which contended during some time for the trident of the ocean; but the superior skill of the English admirals and seamen occasionally pre-

ponderated, and the celebrated victory obtained by Admiral Hawke, in the reign of George II. over an equal number of the enemy, in Quiberon-bay, notwithstanding the darkness of the night, and the dangers of a rocky shore, tended not a little to impress Europe with a high idea of our skill and prowess.

During the American war, England, for the first time, in addition to her own colonies, had to contend with France, Spain, and Holland, and, notwithstanding such "fearful odds," evinced a degree of power and intrepidity never witnessed before by any other nation. Victorious in three quarters of the globe, one of her commanders* had the singular good fortune to defeat a fleet and capture an admiral appertaining to every nation with which his native country contended; and victory remained faithful to the banners of England every where but in the east, and there alone, in consequence of the extraordinary skill and gallantry of one man,† she seemed at times to incline towards the enemy.

During the late war, Britain appeared to have obtained the acmè of naval glory, for she not only coped against all her enemies, but proved superior to them in every general engagement, throughout the four quarters of the world. That nation, which could scarcely fit out an hundred armed ships, to combat the dreaded armada of Spain, on this occasion presented a list of no less than two hundred sail of the line, in addition to an immense number of frigates, sloops, and cutters. All her admirals were crowned

* Lord Rodney. † The Bailli de Suffrein.

with

with laurels, and the names of many brave commanders, among which was included that of the subject of these memoirs, became at once the delight of their own country, and the terror of her enemies.

The family of Cornwallis, Cornwalys, or Cornwalleys, so distinguished in the present age, is not unknown in the annals of England, having produced a succession of men, some of whom were distinguished by their rank, others by their talents, and all by their courage. It is difficult to determine, at this moment, whether they came into England with the Norman conqueror, or were settled in this island anterior to that memorable period, when the traces of the Saxon subjugation had become faint, and the victors and vanquished, happily blending together, enjoyed all the blessings resulting from liberty and independence. Certain it is, that they have been settled for many centuries in the county of Suffolk; and it is not improbable that, like the ducal family of Osborne, they originally derived their wealth from commerce, Thomas Cornwalleys having been a merchant in, and sheriff of London, in the fourteenth century.

At this period there was but little foreign trade in England, and the most opulent of the citizens were accustomed to deal in wool, which, according to the narrow notions of the times, was generally exported to Flanders, on purpose to be manufactured there; but whether this wealthy dealer, who attained the honours of the shrievalty, acquired his opulence by the staple commodity of England or not, is far from being certain; he must have been rich, however, as we find his

son John Cornwallis, in the next reign, serving as knight of the shire for the county of Suffolk in two successive parliaments, and his descendants obliged, on account of their estate, to pay the fees usually extorted under pretence of knighthood.

During the sway of the Tudors, we observe the martial spirit, which has since distinguished this race, first bursting forth in the person of John, who appears to have served as a volunteer in the expedition to France, undertaken by the Lord Surrey; for, in consequence of his gallantry at the assault of Morlaix, he was knighted by the Lord High Admiral. From this time, the Cornwallis's appear to have been known at, and to have enjoyed the favour of the court, particularly during the reign of Mary, when Sir Thomas, who seems to have been a zealous, but enlightened catholic, was appointed first a member of the privy council, and in the year after comptroller of the household.

But on the accession of Elizabeth, his religion disqualified him from these important offices, and he accordingly retired into the country; yet his descendants did not remain long unemployed, for his successor William, who perhaps *conformed*, was knighted on account of his good conduct during the Earl of Essex's expedition into Ireland; while Sir Charles, a younger brother, appears to have been appointed ambassador by James I. to the court of Spain, and we find his nephew soon after in the *suite* of Prince Charles, when he repaired to that country on purpose to court the Infanta.

On

On the accession of Charles I. this gentleman, whose name happened to be Charles also, was created a baronet,* and he was returned member for a borough in Suffolk,† which is at present represented by one of his descendants. Having attached himself to Lord Strafford, who had deserted from his party and principles, he became odious to the patriots, and on the execution of the king, after experiencing the misfortunes arising from confiscation and imprisonment, he followed his son into exile; nor were his services, like those of many of the cavaliers, forgotten on the restoration, for he was nominated treasurer of the household in 1660, and in the course of the next year, created Baron Cornwallis, of Eye, a lordship which had come into his possession by marriage with an heiress.

This nobleman, who seems to have been the first of the family that received the honours of the peerage, was succeeded by Charles Lord Cornwallis, on whose demise without issue, Charles, his nephew, inherited his title and estate. Having married first the eldest daughter of Sir Stephen Fox (the ancestor of the Holland family), and afterwards Anne Duchess of Monmouth and Buccleugh, widow of James Duke of Monmouth, he had a son of the same name by the former of these ladies, who afterwards formed an alliance with the daughter of the Earl of Arran;‡ whence sprung no less than nine sons and three daughters. Of this numerous progeny, the eldest male became

* The letters patent are dated May 4, 1627.

† Eye.

‡ June 1, 1699.

the fifth peer and first earl, while another of them was appointed to the most dignified ecclesiastical office in the gift of the crown, being nominated Archbishop of Canterbury.

In the mean time Lord Cornwallis, in consequence of an alliance with the noble family of Townshend, had issue four sons, one of whom died young, while the three surviving ones have arrived at the first dignities in their respective professions: Charles, the eldest, having acted both in Ireland and in India, not only as Viceroy and Governor-general, but as Commander-in-chief; James having acquired the mitre of Litchfield and Coventry; and William being at this present moment entrusted with the highest naval command in the power of a King of England to bestow. This singular instance of good fortune, by which three sons have attained uncommon eminence, in three different professions, is, we believe, unexampled except in the family of Barrington, one of which was at the head of the *army department, while the second became a bishop, and the third a judge.

The Honourable William Cornwallis, the fourth son of Charles the first earl, by Elizabeth the daughter of Lord Viscount Townshend, was born on the 25th of February, 1744. As the children were numerous, notwithstanding the patrimonial estate was far from being despicable, it became necessary to provide for the younger branches, the subject of these

* Lord Barrington was Secretary at War for many years: of his two brothers, one was an English bishop, and the other a Welch judge.

memoirs,

memoirs, therefore, was destined to serve on board the fleet; but his father, who consented to his entering into the naval service, did not live long enough to witness any more than the first stage of his advancement, having died when he had only attained his eighteenth year. At that period it was not usual, as at present, to send boys from the nursery-room to the quarter-deck of a man of war; yet Mr. Cornwallis, at the demise of a much lamented parent, was a lieutenant of a few months standing: however, in the school of Boscawen and Saunders, it was only after a long and painful service that a ship could be obtained.

Our naval candidate is said to have been first rated as a midshipman on board the Newark, whence he was removed to the Kingston, in which he sailed to America, to participate in the conquest of the enemy's settlements in that quarter. At the time to which we now allude, the founder of the Chatham family carried on a vigorous and successful war in every quarter of the world against the French monarchy, which he completely humbled. Uniting the people at home in one great and glorious cause, he wielded the collected thunder of the empire against our foes, and taught them what it was possible for a small but free nation to achieve. Under his auspices, a Wolfe and an Amherst, a Hawke and a Saunders, conquered both by sea and land, while a multitude of young men, aspiring to preferment, caught the generous flame, and have since merited the gratitude of their country. Among these was Mr. Cornwallis, who participated in the fatigues, as well as in the dan-

gers and the glory attendant on the reduction of Louisbourg, and acquired those early habits of subordination, which enabled him to command others with ability and effect.

In 1759, we find him serving under the gallant Hawke, in the Dunkirk, and witnessing the signal defeat of the French Admiral Conflans, at the mouth of the river Vilaine; after which he repaired under Captain Digby to the Mediterranean, and being taken on board the flag ship* of Admiral Sir Charles Saunders, he was appointed a lieutenant, as has already been hinted, in his seventeenth year,† which, notwithstanding the variety of his services, was considered at that day as a very rapid advancement.

But he did not remain either idle or unemployed. Captain Proby, of the Thunderer, under whom he first acted with his new rank, having sailed with two other men of war to cruize off the harbour of Cadiz, was lucky enough to fall in with and capture a French ship called the Achilles, after a sharp and bloody action, while his consorts obliged the Modeste, another frigate of the same nation, to strike.

In the course of the succeeding year,‡ Lieutenant Cornwallis was nominated to the Wasp sloop of war, with the rank of master and commander; and although the return of peace had precluded the possibility of distinguishing himself by any brilliant exploit, yet such was the high opinion entertained of his services, in addition to the powerful recommendation of his friends, that, in 1765, he was made post, in conse-

* The Neptune. † April 5, 1761. ‡ 1762.

quence

quence of obtaining the command of the Prince Edward, at a period when he had scarcely attained the age of twenty-one. This rapid promotion, within the space of four years, from the rank of lieutenant to that of post-captain, may be considered, in some measure, as an innovation on the ancient discipline; but, greatly to the credit of this young officer, he dedicated his whole life to the service, and continued *afloat* during the greater part of a peace of fifteen years, on board the Prince Edward, at Guadaloupe, thus amply qualifying himself for a command, which was considered, perhaps, by the veterans of that day as rather premature.

A new war, produced by a novel and singular event in the annals of English history, opened the scene of glory afresh, and, while it covered her politicians with ignominy, enabled the commanders of the navy of Great Britain to reap new laurels.

No sooner had hostilities taken place with the colonies, than we find the Cornwallis's, like the Howes, taking an active part in that unhappy contest. While one was fighting by land, sometimes in a subordinate station, and sometimes as commander-in-chief of a separate expedition, against our former subjects, the other, in the capacity of a captain of a man of war, was contending with our former enemies.

The naval power of Britain was about this period far different from what it is at the present day, and, indeed, may be said to have formed a wonderful contrast to it, for it was with extreme difficulty that the superiority of the British flag was supported; and indeed

deed it must be frankly confessed, notwithstanding the acknowledged gallantry of all our commanders, that, in America, Asia, and even in Europe, the French were able at times to dispute the superiority. In the East Indies, in particular, Suffrein, who must be allowed to have excelled in naval tactics, often contrived to make a *drawn battle* with Sir Edward Hughes. In the West Indies, as well as on the shores of the Trans-atlantic continent, De Grasse lorded it for a time, by means of a superior force; and nearer home, the combined French and Spanish fleets, consisting of about forty-nine sail of the line, after stretching from Ushant to the islands of Scilly, on purpose to bar the entrance to the Channel, constrained Admiral Darby, with twenty-one ships, to retire to Torbay, whither they proposed to pursue and attack him.*

But it appears, from the history of the times, that the spirit of the nation was not appalled; that the valour of British seamen was not intimidated; and that the subject of these memoirs even then, when commanding only a single ship, was not inattentive either to his own glory, or the prosperity of the nation.

During the early part of the American contest, he

* In the council of war, summoned for the express purpose of discussing this subject, Admiral the Count de Guichen, first in command in the French fleet, as well as Don Vincent Doz, third in rank on board the Spanish squadron, were both of opinion that an attack should be risked. At this period, the fortifications at Plymouth were but in indifferent order, and such was the panic that seized many of the inhabitants of that place, that many of them actually removed the most valuable of their effects to Tavistock.

commanded

commanded on board a fourth rate,* and had but few opportunities of distinguishing himself by any other good quality than his seamanship, for the same evil genius that had presided over the fortune of Admiral Byron, from the moment that he happened to be wrecked in the Wager, was fated to persecute him during the remainder of his life, and rendered his ill fortune proverbial in the British navy. On the present occasion, it was not only fully exemplified as usual in his own person, but seems to have extended to all under his immediate orders.

It being necessary to reinforce Admiral Howe, who in every part of the American continent found foes instead of allies, while he was menaced by sea with a far superior fleet, detached from France, Byron was sent with a powerful force to his succour, among which was the Lion, of 64 guns, commanded by Captain Cornwallis. But the admiral was retarded, both in Europe and during his passage across the Atlantick, by a variety of sinister events, and no sooner had he nearly reached the object of his destination, than he encountered a storm, which not only did considerable damage to his own ship, but dispersed the greater part of his fleet. What contributed to render his situation still more alarming and disagreeable, at this critical moment, was the appearance of the Count D'Estaing, who, with a fleet of twelve sail of the line, prevented him from joining Lord Howe, and rendered it necessary, leaving the colonies to their fate, to take shelter in Halifax.

* The Lion, of 64 guns.

Notwithstanding

Notwithstanding a junction was soon after effected with the rest of the squadron, and a further reinforcement had arrived from England before the Spring, yet the Count D'Estaing, who by this time had collected an immense naval armament,* obtained possession of the island of St. Vincent's without difficulty, and acquired Grenada also, after a spirited but ineffectual resistance on the part of the British troops.

No sooner did the brave but unfortunate Byron receive intelligence of these events, than he sailed in pursuit of the enemy, concerning whose real force he was completely deceived by some persons in the interest of the enemy, who stated the whole to consist of sixteen sail of the line only; but on his arrival in the neighbourhood of St. George's bay, he found the French to amount to no less than ten sail of the line more than he expected.

Notwithstanding the odds were greatly disproportionate, between twenty-one and twenty-six heavy ships, more especially when it is considered that the enemy's fleet was infinitely superior in point of sailing, yet the combat was not declined. On the contrary, a signal was immediately hoisted for a close action, which commenced on the part of Admiral Barrington, a gallant and successful officer, who, with a small † detachment, had but a little before foiled the whole of the naval force of France in those seas;

* Twenty-six sail of the line, six frigates, several corvettes, and a number of transports, sufficient for the conveyance of a large body of land forces.

† Six ships of the line.

whose

whose daring exploit forms an epoch in the annals of defensive warfare, and whose name constitutes an æra in the history of British seamanship.

Upon this, as indeed upon every occasion, the French, notwithstanding their immense superiority in point of numbers, avoided a close action, while the English studiously endeavoured to lay the enemy alongside. This, however, was prudently evaded by the foe, who contrived to bring nearly the whole of their force to bear upon three ships, which ran the gauntlet along their line, in the course of which they received considerable damage, and were forced to leeward. One of these happened to be the Lion: this vessel received a number of shot in her hull, had her rigging cut, her masts wounded, and, besides fifty-one men either killed or disabled, was reduced nearly to a wreck. In this situation, finding it impossible to weather the enemy's line, and reassume his proper station in the fleet, Captain Cornwallis, taking advantage of the trade-wind, which blows constantly in that latitude, immediately bore away for Jamaica; while the Count D'Estaing, instead of improving the advantage derived from this loss on the part of the British line of battle, withdrew in the course of the same evening to his former anchorage. Notwithstanding the French did not obtain any advantage upon this occasion, yet neither the conduct nor the consequences of the action gave entire satisfaction on board the British fleet. Admiral Barrington, in particular, who distinguished himself greatly

greatly upon this occasion, on board the old Prince of Wales, a 74 gun ship, and had about seventy of his own crew killed and wounded, was greatly disgusted, and swore that he would not again serve under Byron, for an opportunity had been offered and missed, in the course of the late engagement, to have destroyed the whole of the French fleet. He accordingly returned home in the Ariadne, a twenty gun ship, commanded by Captain, late Admiral Pringle, who died a few months since; and as if he had been fated always to fight, fell in and engaged with two French frigates in the Channel, from which he had the good fortune to escape.

It was about dawn of day that the French ships slipped their cables from St. George's bay, in the island of Grenada; and it was thought that if the English admiral had carried a press of sail, and not waited to form the line, he might have cut part of them off, before they had gained their respective positions.

No sooner had the Lion been refitted at Port Royal, than her commander was detached with a small squadron, consisting of his own ship, together with the Bristol and the Janus, to cruize to windward of the island. While on this station, April 20, 1780, he descried three seventy-fours, a sixty-four gun ship, and a frigate, which had been detached by Admiral D'Estaing, under Commodore La Motte Piquet, on purpose to protect a convoy of merchantmen bound to St. Domingo. On discovering the English cruizers, which had by this time formed a line of battle, and, notwith-

notwithstanding their manifest superiority, waited for the approach of the enemy, the French commander immediately parted from his convoy, and at the same time threw out the signal to engage. But he had no sooner beheld the resolute demeanour of this little squadron, and perceived that it was commanded by the Captain of the Lion, to whose valour he had so recently borne testimony, than he was content with a distant cannonade. During a calm which ensued, an endeavour was made on the part of the British to bring on a close fight, by towing, and one of our ships* was actually enabled, by a partial breeze, to engage with and carry away the mizen and main-top-gallant-mast of the Hero, of 74 guns, on board of which a broad pendant was flying; but as the former vessel carried no more than forty-four guns, and would not upon any common occasion have been admitted into the line of battle, she was so completely disabled, as to be rendered nearly unserviceable, besides having lost her captain early in the action. Luckily, however, three sail† of English men of war about this time hove in sight, on which Commodore La Motte Piquet deemed it prudent to sheer off, and followed his convoy into Cape François.

Soon after this event the Lion returned to England, and was present at the relief of Gibraltar, in 1781, under Admiral Darby, on which occasion Admiral Christian being disabled and obliged to return,

* The Janus, Captain Glover.

† The Ruby, of 64, and the Niger and Pomona frigates.

Captain

Captain Cornwallis volunteered along with Sir James Wallace against the Spanish gun-boats. When paid off, her commander was appointed to the Canada, of 74 guns, and in this ship he again returned to the West Indies, and was lucky enough to be employed under a more fortunate, and perhaps also a more able commander than before. Sir Samuel, now Lord Hood, the officer to whom we at present allude, was, however, in a very disagreeable situation at this moment, for he was obliged to keep the sea with an inferior squadron, and to act sometimes on the offensive, and sometimes on the defensive, as the extent of his force, and the critical situation of public affairs required.

St. Eustatia, where we are reluctantly obliged to confess, that the English name was but little respected, in consequence of some events not exactly countenanced by the laws of nations, and which were afterwards considered by the privy council to be *spoliations*, had by this time been reconquered by the French. De Bouillé, who upon that occasion conducted himself with a certain degree of heroism and disinterestedness, which appeared the more striking from contrast, after this bent his arms against the valuable settlement of St. Kitt's, the inhabitants of which, in consequence of recent events, were loyal indeed, but at the same time discontented. The Marquis effected a landing on the 11th of January, 1782, and was supported by a most formidable armament under Admiral the Count de Grasse, who possessed

sessed a force of no less than thirty-two ships of the line.* On this General Fraser, with a small body of troops, which did not exceed six hundred effective men, retired to Brimstone-hill, which, from its immense height, steepness, and newly-erected fortifications, was not only deemed nearly inaccessible, but almost impregnable: in short, it then was, and still is, one of the strongest posts in the whole West Indian archipelago. The troops were, however, far from being

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* List of the French fleet in Fort Royal harbour at this period.

Ships.	Guns.	Ships.	Guns.
1. La Ville de Paris, Admiral the Count de Grasse, Commander in chief	110	18. Le Scipion	74
2. L'Auguste	80	19. Le Bourgogne	74
3. Le Duc de Burgogne	80	20. Destin*	74
4. Le St. Esprit*	80	21. Le Dauphin Royal	74
5. La Couronne	80	22. Le Magnifique	74
6. Le Neptune	80	23. Le Refleche*	74
7. Le Triomphant	80	24. Le Bien Aimé	74
8. Le Zelé	74	25. Le Sceptre	74
9. Le Glorieux	74	26. Le Conquerant	74
10. Le Citoyen	74	27. Le Marseillois	74
11. Le Souverain	74	28. Le Palmier	74
12. Le Magnanime	74	29. L'Ardent	64
13. Le Cæsar	74	30. L'Eveillé	64
14. Le Hector	74	31. Le Caton	64
15. Le Brave	74	32. Le Jason	64
16. Le Pluton	74	33. Le Fier, armée en flute	54
17. Le Hercule	74	34 Le Minotaur	54
		35. Le Sagittaire	54
		36. L'Experiment	50

Total, thirty-six sail of the line, two fifty gun ships, thirteen frigates, seven armed brigs, two fire-ships, and one cutter. It must be observed, however, that those marked * were out of repair.

commensurate to the importance of the place, as it required a force of between two and three thousand men to have defended it with effect against the army now prepared to besiege it.

In this situation of affairs, Sir Samuel Hood, who was then lying at anchor in Carlisle bay, in the island of Barbadoes, with no more than twenty-two sail of the line, determined, notwithstanding his manifest inferiority, to depart from the beaten track of service, and hazard an action on purpose to achieve the preservation of so important a settlement. He accordingly sailed for Antigua, where he took General Prescot and the few troops which could be spared on board, and proceeded immediately to Basse Terre road.

As he found the enemy there, according to his expectations, he began by dawn of day to form the line of battle, and by an able manœuvre, during which Captain Cornwallis distinguished himself greatly, the brunt of the action having fallen on the division commanded by Commodore Affleck, actually obtained possession of the French anchorage.

Nor was it in the power of D'Estaing, who had been completely foiled upon this occasion, either to recover his reputation for seamanship, or regain his former station; for the British fleet assumed such a formidable posture of defence, that he in vain attempted to bear down and engage the formidable line of fire that opposed his utmost efforts, having been completely baffled and frustrated in all his attempts. It must, indeed, be acknowledged by every one,

one, that Lord Hood evinced a degree of naval science and tactical skill, during this able but ineffectual attempt to relieve St. Kitt's, which had never been surpassed since the days of Drake and of Raleigh, except, perhaps, when Barrington, as has been already stated, with a force still inferior to that employed upon the present occasion, completely foiled a large French fleet, and proved that British skill was not inferior to British valour.

In the mean time, a furious cannonade, joined to a terrible bombardment, took place day and night on the part of the invaders for the space of three weeks, and the effect may be easily conceived, when it is stated that the whole force, of not less than twenty-three pieces of heavy cannon, and twenty-four mortars of a large calibre, were incessantly directed against a circular spot of ground, the extreme radius of which did not exceed two hundred yards; nor ought it to be omitted, that as there were neither casemates nor bomb-proofs for the troops, their sufferings became indescribable.

The British Admiral, unable to afford any effectual assistance, was now reduced to the necessity of seeing the fortress surrender; for he had long beheld the signal of distress flying from the only part of the walls as yet undemolished, without being able to furnish any relief, and was fully prepared for this mortifying event. As his presence therefore was no longer serviceable, on purpose to animate the spirits of the troops, and remind the inhabitants of their allegiance, he determined to retire, more especially as the enemy,

flushed with their recent success, were preparing to erect gun and mortar batteries, so as to annoy his squadron.

But a retreat was now become difficult; for while Admiral Hood in vain expected a force from England, on purpose to place him nearly on an equality with the enemy, M. De Grasse had been joined by two ships of the line from France, so that his former superiority was increased, from thirty-two to thirty-four, while the English still remained with their original number, twenty-two sail of the line only.

It became necessary, therefore, to make use of discretion, and the prudence of the commander on this, rivalled his intrepidity on a former occasion. Accordingly, although the enemy's fleet lay so near, that their lights were perceptible, Sir Samuel Hood and the captains under him slipped their cables during the night after the capitulation, and getting under sail nearly at the same moment, put to sea, without being either perceived or followed by the enemy.

The success of the French at this period will scarcely be credited by those who have beheld them of late years, acting uniformly on the defensive at sea, and either carefully avoiding an engagement, or experiencing successive overthrows and discomfiture. The islands of Nevis and Montserrat, settlements of but little strength or value, followed the fortune of Tobago, St. Eustatia, and St. Christopher, and of all the possessions of Britain in the West Indies, three* only remained unsubdued. One of these,

* Antigua, Barbadoes, and Jamaica.

which

which has always been considered as of infinite importance to Great Britain, was at the same time greatly coveted by her enemies; and Spain, which, previously to the protectorate of Cromwell had possessed Jamaica, still contemplated that island from the shores of Cuba with a desiring eye. But the gallantry of the British navy presented an impenetrable barrier to these ambitious hopes, and prevented England from losing one of her best and most valuable settlements.

The force of the allied courts in the West Indies was immense at this period, for it consisted of no less than sixty ships of the line, while the troops were so numerous as to form a considerable army, fully adequate, in case a landing had been effected, to overcome six battalions of regulars, and a militia, unaccustomed to war, which constituted the whole defence of the island. While orders were issued for forming a junction off Hispaniola, and at the very moment when the storm was about to break on the heads of the astonished planters, Sir George Brydges Rodney fortunately arrived at Barbadoes with twelve sail of the line, and having taken upon himself the command of Admiral Hood's squadron, to which the Canada, Captain Cornwallis, was still attached, he prepared first to intercept the supplies destined for, and next to overcome the enemy. For this purpose, he disposed of his fleet in a line to windward of the French islands, stretching from the latitude of Deseada to that of St. Vincent, taking care, at the same time, to place a chain of frigates still further in advance. A large convoy, however, had sufficient address to avoid

these formidable preparations, by keeping to the northward, and creeping close under the islands of Guadaloupe and Dominica, so as to arrive safe in Fort Royal bay, Martinico, where they found the Count de Grasse busily employed in equipping thirty-four ships of the line, and overjoyed, no doubt, at this unexpected relief.

The commander, however, instead of being desirous to encounter the English, who had now repaired to Gros Islet bay, in St. Lucia, to the number of thirty-six sail of the line, on purpose to watch his motions, determined, if possible, to avoid an engagement, until he had effected the intended junction with the French and Spanish squadrons, then waiting for him at St. Domingo. To attain this, he left Fort Royal bay on the 8th of April, in three divisions, with the Admirals Vaudreuil and De Bougainville under him, and endeavoured to keep close in under the islands, so as, if possible, to elude pursuit. Sir George Rodney, who expected this evolution, immediately left his anchorage, in three divisions, of which he himself commanded the centre,* Rear-admiral Sir

* English order of battle.

Rear-admiral Sir SAMUEL HOOD's Division.

Frigates.	Ships.	Commanders.	Guns.	Men.
*Lizard	Royal Oak	Thomas Burnet	74	600
	Alfred	W. Bayne	74	600
*La Nymphe	Montagu	G. Bowen	74	600
	Yarmouth	A. Parry	64	500
	Valiant	S. G. Goodall	74	650
Champion to repeat signals	Barfleur	Sir S. Hood, Bart. / John Knight	90	767
	Monarch	Francis Reynolds	74	600
	Warrior	Sir James Wallace	74	600
Zebra	Belliqueux	Alex. Sutherland	64	500
	Centaur	John Inglefield	74	650
	Magnificent	Robert Linzee	74	600
Alecto	Prince William	Geo. Wilkinson	64	500

Sir

Samuel Hood led the van, and Rear-admiral Francis Drake the rear, while the Captains Cornwallis, Gardner,

Sir George Brydges Rodney, Commander in Chief.

Frigates.	Ships.	Commanders.	Guns.	Men.
*Convert	Bedford	Com. Ad. Affleck, Thomas Graves	74	617
	Ajax	N. Charrington	74	550
Endymion	Repulse	Tho. Dumaresq	64	500
Alarm	Canada	Hon. W. Cornwallis	74	600
Andromache	St. Albans	Capt. Inglis	64	500
*Fortune	Namur	Rob. Fanshawe	90	750
Flora to repeat signals	Formidable	SirG.B.Rodney,Bt., Sir C. Douglas, Bt., John Symonds, LordCranstoun	90	750
Alert	Duke	Allan Gardner	90	750
	Agamemnon	Benj. Caldwell	64	500
Sybil	Resolution	Lord R. Manners	74	600
*Pegasus	Prothee	Charles Buckner	64	500
	Hercules	Henry Savage	74	600
*Salamander	America	Samuel Thompson	64	500

Rear-admiral Francis Drake's Divison.

*Germain	Russel	James Saumarez	74	600
	*Prudent	Andrew Berklay	64	500
*Blast	Fame	Robert Barber	74	600
	Anson	William Blair	64	500
Triton	Torbay	John Lewis Gidoin	74	600
	Prince George	James Williams	90	750
Euridice to repeat signals	Princessa	Fr.Sam.Drake, Esq., Cha. Knatchbull	70	577
	Conqueror	George Balfour	74	600
	Nonsuch	William Truscott	64	500
*Santa Monica	Alcide	Charles Thompson	74	600
	Arrogant	Sam. Cornish	74	600
	Marlborough	Taylor Penny	74	600

All accidental frigates to be opposite the centre division, and those marked* not with the fleet during the action.

N.B. This order of battle was inverted on the 12th of April, Sir Francis Drake's division having led, in consequence of instructions from the Commander in chief. The reason, which must be allowed to be a most excellent one, was on account of the little damage experienced by the twelve ships under the Rear-admiral during the action of the 9th.

Lord Robert Manners, Saumarez, Sir James Wallace, Bowen, Graves, Bayne, Affleck, &c. served under them. The excellent disposition which had been made for a chace, enabled the English speedily to form the line of battle at two cables length asunder; and notwithstanding they were becalmed some time under the high lands of Dominica, the van at length began to close with the French centre.

The action commenced about nine o'clock of the morning of the 9th of April, and in the course of a few minutes Sir Samuel Hood's division was engaged with a far superior portion of the enemy; but the arrival of the commander in chief, with a part of the centre division, and the appearance of the van, at length induced Count de Grasse, who had the command of the wind, to withdraw from the action, which, however, proved indecisive, notwithstanding two of the enemy were so completely disabled, as to be obliged to retire to Guadaloupe. Two others had also received so much damage, that on the 11th they were seen to fall considerably to leeward, and would assuredly have been cut off, had not the Count de Grasse been induced by their perilous situation to bear down to their assistance with his whole fleet, and thus hazard the loss of all for the preservation of a few.

Accordingly, on the morning of the 12th of April, a combat took place, which proved one of the most memorable and glorious recorded in the British annals. Admiral Drake, whose division, in consequence of an inverted order,* now led to action, conducted

* The order of battle was changed, in consequence of the loss sustained by Rear-admiral Hood's division in the former action.

himself

himself in a very gallant manner, and in the course of this evolution, the first *ship received the broadsides of no less than twenty-three of those belonging to the enemy. The other men of war, as they came up, ranged slowly and closely along the adverse line, and fourscore broadsides were fired by the Formidable alone in the course of a battle, where, from the proximity and crowded state of the French vessels, the carnage was immense.

The victory, however, still remained indecisive, when Sir George Brydges Rodney, who had determined on the first opportunity to recur to the new system of naval tactics, being supported by his two seconds, the Namur, Captain Fanshawe, with the Duke, Captain (now Lord) Gardner, and followed by the Canada, the Hon. W. Cornwallis, bore about noon directly athwart the enemy's line, and broke through it, within about three ships of the centre, where the French admiral commanded in the Ville de Paris, of 110 guns, and 1300 men. Being nobly supported by the men of war astern of his division, he immediately wore round and doubled upon the enemy, who perceiving their line separated, were now thrown into inextricable confusion. Admiral Drake, who, as has already been observed, led upon this occasion, having tacked at the same time by signal, the British fleet was enabled to obtain the weather-gage, and as the defeat of the French was now become certain, and their disorder already irretrievable, their van immediately endeavoured to bear to leeward; but they

* The Marlborough, Captain Penny.

were

were intercepted by Sir Samuel Hood's division, which had been until lately becalmed.

The French, however, displayed great bravery upon this occasion, for many of the commanders fought with the most undaunted resolution, and the Captain of the Cæsar, in particular, not only engaged Captain Inglefield, in a ship of equal size, but received the fire of three other ships in succession, and is said to have nailed his colours to the mast, on purpose that they might not be struck so long as he remained alive, while the Diadem, of 74 guns, went fairly down, in consequence of a fatal broadside.

In the mean time, the Canada exhibited a degree of spirit seldom equalled, and never excelled, even in the British navy. After fighting a single combat with the Hector, a ship of the same rate and number of guns, single handed, the gallant commander leaving his prize to be taken possession of by a frigate, bore down upon the Ville de Paris, and laying her alongside, commenced a combat which lasted during two hours.*

But De Grasse, who declared after the action, that "this little red-sided ship (the Canada) did him more harm than all the rest with which he had contended," determined, from a point of honour, not to strike to any thing short of a flag, and accordingly held out until about sunset, when Rear-admiral Sir Samuel Hood came up in the Barfleur, on which the Count surrendered, but not before his upper deck had been swept in such a manner, that only three men, of which he himself was one, remained alive and unhurt.

* Captain Cornwallis had twelve men killed, and twenty-three wounded, upon this occasion.

In

In the course of this action, and the subsequent pursuit, the enemy lost no less than six ships of the line, while the remainder escaped with considerable difficulty to Cape François, under the Admirals de Bougainville and Vaudreuil.

A few days after, Sir George Rodney, who had now defeated the French, Spaniards, and Dutch in succession, taken an admiral of each nation, and added twelve sail of line-of-battle ships to the British navy, besides destroying five more, repaired to Jamaica, an island which he had so recently saved by his gallant exertions, and where he and the brave officers under him were received with transports of joy, as well as the warmest effusions of gratitude.

In the course of a few weeks, Sir George Brydges Rodney, who had now been created an English peer, returned to England, and was succeeded in the command by Admiral Pigot. The change of ministry which had taken place in the mean time, soon brought about that peace which ensured the independence of America, and gave a respite to France, the navy of which had been crippled by the late action.

On this Captain Cornwallis also returned home, and participated in all the advantages resulting from birth, fortune, and reputation. In 1783, he received a particular mark of approbation, on the part of the Sovereign, by being appointed to the command of a royal yacht,* which, while it was accompanied by certain pecuniary advantages, neither engrossed his time nor his attention.

* The Charlotte.

But

But he did not listen to the siren-voice of pleasure, for we soon find his ancient habits re-assuming their empire, and that desire for active employment, which always characterises a gallant seaman, operating with full force; he accordingly once more became a candidate at the admiralty board; and the merits of such an officer were not overlooked, for we find him serving, in 1789, on board the Crown, at which period he was in danger of being wrecked,* and in the course

* It appears from the following letter, addressed to the Secretary of the Society of Arts and Sciences, that Captain Cornwallis was greatly indebted to the adoption of a new invention for the preservation of his ship.

"Sir, Captain Pakenham having inclosed me a letter from you, wherein you are desirous of having a certificate from me, respecting the utility of his temporary rudder, and which would likewise be of essential service to Captain Pakenham:

"I do therefore certify, that, on our getting on shore, in his Majesty's ship the Crown, under my command, our rudder was unshipped, and rendered totally useless, by having all the pintles broke short off; and, on our arrival in the Downs, we got the rudder up along-side the ship: and having the plan of Captain Pakenham's substitute for a rudder on board, I ordered the spare cap to be fitted exactly similar to the plan; which when done, we hung it, with great ease, and hove it close to the sternpost, by the top chains and hawsers, fixed to the eye-bolts of the cap, and brought it forward. We found it answer extremely well: it had a very fair trial; for we were two days beating to windward, under close-reefed topsails, and sometimes a heavy sea: and I have not the least doubt, had we lost our rudder, and had been obliged to have made use of Captain Pakenham's, it would have answered in every respect: and it is not only my own opinion, but likewise the opinion of all my officers, that it would conduct a ship to any part of the world. We made use of all the materials described in the plan. I therefore think there cannot be a doubt of the great utility of it.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

His Majesty's Ship Crown, JAMES CORNWALLIS."
Feb. 9, 1789.

of a few years more, he was appointed to a command highly honourable during peace, and which is certain of ensuring a large fortune in time of war. The situation alluded to is the East India station, where the appointments are liberal, and during which the country powers always treat a British commander with nearly the same respect and attention as if he were a sovereign prince.* No sooner was his appointment notified, than he repaired to Portsmouth, hoisted his broad pendant on board the Crown as a Commodore, and sailed in the course of a few weeks. While occupied in a variety of salutary reforms in the naval department, and engaged in some altercations with the naval commander of another nation, relative to the right of searching neutral vessels, during which he proved "that an English man of war can speak all languages,"† the effects of the French revolution began to operate, not only on the continent of Europe, but in Britain also, and a war appeared inevi-

* To convey some idea of the munificence of the Asiatic princes, it is only necessary to state, that the late Nabob of Arcot was accustomed to present the captain of the frigate which convoyed the pilgrims to Mecca with a costly diamond, besides a sum of money amounting to about 3000l. sterling.

† The following description of an English man of war, by the late Mr. Macklin, cannot fail to give pleasure to every British seaman:

"An English man of war can speak all languages: she is the best interpreter, and most profound politician in this island; she was always Oliver Cromwell's ambassador; she is the wisest minister of state that ever existed, and never tells a lie; nor will she suffer the proudest Frenchman, or Spaniard, or Dutchman, to bamboozle her, or give her a saucy answer."

table

table. Much depended, so far as concerned India, on the celerity with which this event was communicated, and fortunately for the British settlements in Asia, early notice was received of the contest. Mr. Baldwin, our consul in Egypt, anticipating all the advantages likely to be derived from dispatch, adopted such efficacious measures, that he transmitted an account of hostilities by the way of the Red Sea, with a rapidity hitherto unexampled. On receiving this important intelligence, the necessary preparations immediately took place, Chandernagore, Carical, Yanam, and all the small factories appertaining to the republic, were immediately seized, and a number of vessels captured by the British squadron. But as Pondicherry was a place of some consequence, it became necessary to attack it according to all the rules and all the forms of war.

Commodore Cornwallis was accordingly applied to by the Governor-general, and that officer afforded the most efficacious assistance. Having collected a few ships he immediately sailed thither, and blockaded the place by sea, while Colonel Braithwaite, who had acted as Governor when it was formerly in possession of the English, and was acquainted with all the approaches, conducted the siege on the land side. A battery of eight twelve-pounders, and two eight-inch mortars, was erected within eight hundred yards of the walls; this was soon succeeded by another of fourteen twenty-four-pounders, on the opening of which the fire of the enemy became irregular and confused; gun after gun was withdrawn,

and

and the embrasures filled with sand-bags, while an incessant shower of shot and shells was kept up.

But notwithstanding these formidable preparations, and the extraordinary degree of zeal displayed by the European and native troops, the siege might have languished, and disease have prevailed in the English camp, so as to retard the reduction of this important town, which may be considered as the capital of the French settlements on the continent of Asia, had it not been for the vigilance of the British cruizers, and the exemplary strictness with which the blockade by sea was maintained. The governor* depended greatly on the arrival of supplies from the Isle of France, and a frigate was accordingly fitted out expressly for that purpose; but the ships stationed in the road having precluded the possibility of entrance, the garrison, on the afternoon of the 28th of August, 1793, exhibited flags of truce on the saliant angles of the fort, and in the course of the succeeding day Pondicherry surrendered to the British arms.

As soon as the usual period for the India station had expired, Commodore Cornwallis returned from that distant quarter of the world,† in order to acquire fresh honours on the shores of his native land. After being promoted to the rank of Vice of the blue, in 1794,‡ we find him, in 1795, serving in the Channel fleet, with his flag hoisted on board of the Royal Sovereign, of

* Colonel Prosper de Chermont.

† He came home on board the Phœnix, Sir Richard Strahan.

‡ He had been promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral of the White, Feb. 1, 1793.

100 guns,

100 guns. As he was known to be an officer of skill and enterprize, it was determined to detach him with a small squadron* to harass the enemy, intercept their convoys, alarm their shores, and capture any of their ships that might dare to venture out. He accordingly left the grand fleet, with four 74 gun ships, and four frigates, in addition to his own, which was a first-rate, and in the course of the summer contributed not a little to the destruction of the remaining commerce of France. It may be here necessary to particularise one event, as in respect to skill, seamanship, resolution, and all that species of enterprize and talents necessary for defensive warfare, it must be allowed to have reflected high honour on the commander, as well as every officer who served under him.

In the beginning of June the vice-admiral stretched into the Bay of Biscay, and chased three French line-of-battle ships and six frigates into Belleisle roads; these were fortunate enough to escape under protection of their batteries, but a large merchantman and eight brigs were captured. A few days after,† as he was cruizing near the Penmarks, Captain Stopford,

* The squadron consisted of the following ships and frigates:

1. The Royal Sovereign, 100 guns, { Vice-admiral Cornwallis. / Captain Whitby.
2. The Mars, 74 guns, Captain Sir C. Cotton.
3. The Triumph, 74 guns, Captain Sir E. Gower.
4. The Brunswick, 74 guns, Captain Lord C. Fitzgerald.
5. The Bellerophon, 74 guns, Captain Lord Cranstoun.
6. The Phaeton, } frigates, { Captain Curzon.
7. The Pallas, } frigates, { Captain Stopford.

† June 16.

of

of the Phaeton frigate, made the signal for a fleet ahead, and soon after intimated that it was of superior force; but as he neither lay-to nor rejoined his commander, it was concluded that he had alluded rather to the number than the strength of the enemy, and that their exact rates had not as yet been fully ascertained.

On this the squadron, which had been collected, by hawling the wind on the starboard tack, stood on with a view of making a more ample discovery, an idea being entertained that the strange ships consisted of frigates, as the French were supposed to have but very few vessels of a larger size at sea. But as the Phaeton had by this time brought-to, and reported the enemy to consist of thirteen sail of the line, fourteen frigates, two brigs, and a cutter, the British Admiral determined to haul off.

The wind having shifted in the course of the evening, the French, which had hitherto been to leeward of the English, were enabled to assume a more advantageous position, so that by daylight next morning they were discovered on both quarters of Admiral Cornwallis's squadron, and seemed determined to close in upon and completely surround it.

In the course of the preceding night the admiral himself led in the Royal Sovereign, with a view of taking advantage of any favourable opportunity that might occur for altering his course unobserved, and it was his intention to place the Brunswick and Bellerophon, which were dull ships, in the van, and the Mars and Triumph astern of his own vessel; but the two former

This brilliant exploit reflected equal lustre on the intrepidity and skill of the Admiral, and he accordingly became the subject of public notice and attention. It was doubtless this, as well as many other considerations, which induced the Board of Admiralty to nominate him to the important post, of commander in chief in the West Indies. He accordingly sailed in the Royal Sovereign for that station; but in consequence of a severe gale of wind, his flag ship became so much disabled off Scilly, that he deemed it necessary to return to England.

His conduct upon this occasion did not, however,

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alertness; I kept the Pallas near me to repeat signals, which Captain Curzon performed much to my satisfaction. Indeed I shall ever feel the impression which the good conduct of the Captains, Officers, seamen, marines, and soldiers in the squadron has made on my mind; and it was the greatest pleasure I ever received, to see the spirit manifested in the men, who, instead of being cast down at seeing thirty sail of the enemy's ships attacking our little squadron, were in the highest spirits imaginable.

"I do not mean the Royal Sovereign alone, the same spirit was shewn in all the ships as they came near me; and although (circumstanced as we were) we had no great reason to complain of the conduct of the enemy, yet our men could not help repeatedly expressing their contempt of them. Could common prudence have allowed me to let loose their valour, I hardly know what might not have been accomplished by such men.

"Little damage was sustained by the squadron in general. The Mars had twelve wounded, none killed, her masts and sails much cut; the Triumph shifted some of her sails, but the damage she received is so trifling, at least in the Captain's eye, that Sir Erasmus Gower has not thought it worth reporting; indeed, the cool and firm conduct of that ship was such, that it appeared to me the enemy's ships dared not to come near her."

fully

fully satisfy those who presided over the naval affairs of this country, as they thought he ought to have proceeded in another ship. He was accordingly ordered to return on board the Astræa frigate, which was fitted out on purpose to receive him, and reassume his command; but he declined compliance, and pleaded the bad state of his health in justification.

Not satisfied with this excuse, the Board issued orders for trying him by a court-martial, which accordingly assembled at Portsmouth, April 8, 1796, on which occasion the gallant veteran Admiral Earl Howe presided.* The charges, as delivered by the Judge Advocate, consisted of three in number:

1. "That Admiral Cornwallis, after having sailed from England for the West Indies, and proceeded a considerable way, *did return*, contrary to the orders and instructions by him received.

2. "That not having a sufficient regard to the importance of his situation as commander in chief, he had omitted to shift his flag on

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* FLAG OFFICERS.

President, Earl Howe, admiral of the fleet.
Sir Peter Parker, Bart. admiral of the white.
Lord Bridport, ditto.
G. Vandeput, Esq. vice-admiral of the white.
Sir Allan Gardner, Bart. ditto.
John Colpoys, Esq. vice-admiral of the blue.
Sir Roger Curtis, Bart. rear-admiral of the red.
H. Harvey, Esq. ditto.
R. R. Bligh, Esq. ditto.
C. M. Pole, Esq. rear-admiral of the blue.

CAPTAINS.

E. E. Nugent, Esq.
Ch. Powell Hamilton, Esq. and
Edmund Dod, Esq.
Judge Advocate, Sir George Jackson, Bart.

board of some other ship of his squadron, after the Royal Sovereign had been disabled, in order to proceed, as he ought to have done, to the place of his destination; but that instead of his doing so, he had given his instructions and the command of the convoy to another officer.

And 3. "That after his return, he had disobeyed another order of the Board of Admiralty, by not hoisting his flag on board the Astræa frigate, and proceeding to the West Indies, as he had been ordered by their Lordships."

After hearing the evidence for the prosecution, the Admiral, assisted by the Hon. Thomas Erskine, entered on his defence, and not only vindicated himself from the two first charges, but shewed that he was incapable from the ill state of his health to comply with the orders of his superiors, and return in the Astræa.

The whole of the evidence on both sides having been examined in the course of the same day, the court broke up, and on assembling again next morning, pronounced sentence, in substance as follows: "That the Admiral was acquitted of the two first charges, and that the third not being proved, he was acquitted of that also."

This event deprived his country of the services of an excellent officer, during a period of nearly five years; for, thinking himself ill used upon this occasion, he immediately struck his flag, which was still flying on board the Royal Sovereign; and notwithstanding he was included in the promotion that took place in 1799, in consequence of which he obtained the rank of Admiral of the Blue, yet he declined the acceptance of any command, so long as a certain nobleman presided at the head of the Admiralty Board.

No

No sooner, however, had Earl St. Vincent, who had so nobly led the fleets of his country, been appointed to superintend their exertions, than he was selected to the high and important station of commander in chief of the Channel fleet, on which the safety of England during the time of war may be said to depend. Admiral Cornwallis accordingly hoisted his flag on board the Ville de Paris, in February 1801, and in this ship, built on purpose to commemorate one of the same name taken from the French by Admiral Lord Rodney, watched their principal ports with such assiduity, that they were unable to send forth even a detachment of men of war during the remainder of the blockade.*

On the return of peace, the fleets of England repaired to their own ports, and the gallant officers, who had so nobly maintained the honour of our flag, enjoyed for a while a relaxation from the fatigues of the service.

But no sooner had a new war burst forth, than the First Lord of the Admiralty selected the ablest and most approved officers to command in those stations, for which they were best adapted. It may be easily imagined that the merits of a Cornwallis was not overlooked upon the occasion; the moment, indeed,

* Such was the naval strength of Great Britain at this moment, that at the time Admiral Cornwallis appeared with a fleet of fifteen sail of the line in this quarter, Sir James Saumarez blockaded Cadiz, and Sir John Borlase Warren Toulon, while the Admirals Dickson and Graves kept all the Dutch ports in check. See the "History of the Wars arising out of the French Revolution," vol. II.

that the negociations for an amicable accommodation were likely to prove abortive, and it became evident that a new contest was about to ensue, Admiral Cornwallis was called from retirement, and once more employed to superintend the operations of the Channel fleet. He at first hoisted his flag on board a second rate, the Dreadnought, of 98 guns, with W. Dommett and E. Brace, Esqrs. as his first and second captains. In the mean time, his old ship, the Ville de Paris, of 110 guns, was preparing for him, and as soon as she was fitted up, he shifted his flag from on board the Dreadnought to that fine vessel, in which he continues to alarm the coasts, to straiten the resources, and blockade the ports of an enemy, equally unable and unwilling to face him on the ocean.

As much has been said about the disposition of the Channel fleet, it may not be amiss here to state a few particulars relative to that subject. Brest being the principal naval arsenal of France, adjoining Great Britain, and in most respects superior to Toulon, which is chiefly calculated for operations in the Mediterranean, it has always been the policy of this country to watch the motions of the fleets there. Accordingly in every war, subsequently to those disgraceful periods when Charles II. became the pensioner of France, and James II. a convert to the religion and politics of her monarch, care has been taken to station such a force there as should render every attempt to put to sea hazardous, if not abortive. This however, was never so completely effected as during the late contest, for it was with some difficulty that even-

even single ships could steal out unnoticed; and if the squadron for the invasion of Ireland, with a small body of troops, commanded by Hoche, did actually contrive to escape, let it be recollected that this occurred during a storm, which separated the greater part of the armament, and defeated the whole plan.

To render the blockade more effectual, it is usual to divide the fleet in the following manner: First, what is termed an *in-shore squadron*, consisting of frigates, occupies such a station as to be able to watch all the motions of the enemy, peep occasionally into the inner harbour, and give the appointed signal in case of alarm. The *out-shore squadron* consists of the main body of the fleet, ready, upon the least intimation of danger, to afford succour to the vessels on the look out, and give the enemy battle, should they dare to venture from Brest water. It is also usual to station detachments off Rochefort, Belleisle, and L'Orient, on purpose to keep those ports in check; but such precautions are adopted that they can be recalled at a short notice, so as that the whole collected fleet may be enabled to encounter and to dissipate any great and sudden danger.

Having said this much concerning the usual disposition of the fleet under the orders of our gallant admiral, it may not be amiss to conclude with a few particulars concerning himself.

In respect to person, he is of the middle size, stout and portly, with a certain degree of *prominence before*, which may be supposed to add dignity to a commander in chief, and must be allowed not to be unbecoming

coming in an officer now in the sixtieth year of his age.

As to talents, his skill and bravery are undoubted, his seamanship is in particular in high repute, and a long apprenticeship, of more than forty years, during which he has had fewer intervals of relaxation on shore, than perhaps any other officer of equal rank in the British navy, has enabled him to acquire a degree of professional capability, which renders no disaster unknown, and no situation unusual to him. In point of habits, he is a reserved man, and is so little desirous of bustle when on shore, that on its being observed, during a temporary residence near Chichester, that "he must be very lonely;" he replied, "that the cabbage-stocks in his garden were sufficient company for him."

At times he enjoys his glass freely, but is so abstemious while on duty, that he has been known for six months together to drink no more than a couple of glasses of wine at dinner, after which he carefully abstained from any other refreshment during the succeeding part of the day.

It has always been usual for British sailors, with that frankness so conspicuous in their characters, to designate their favourite commanders by means of some apposite expression, originating in some peculiarity, arising either out of their persons or their manners. Accordingly, Boscawen was familiarly termed *wry-necked Dick*; Pye, so long post-admiral at Portsmouth, was always called *Nosey*; Earl Howe, whose very name is still adored in the navy, received the appellation

pellation of *Black Dick*; while Admiral Cornwallis, on account of a certain twirl of the finger and thumb, added to a sleek and ruddy countenance, and a wig somewhat similar to that seen in front of a nobleman's carriage, is frequently denominated *Coachée*, and *Mr. Whip*.

Thus far it may be permitted to recite the honest jokes, and retail the sea-wit of a class of men, at once the glory and the defence of their country; but we are at the same time desirous to intimate, that none are more eager to detail the merits, stimulate the services, uphold the honour, and praise the energy of all brave naval commanders than ourselves. It is our wish, and our hope, that while fighting the battles of their country, they may at the same time enjoy the confidence and the praise of their fellow-citizens, and that names, such as a Nelson, a Jervais, a Duncan, and a Cornwallis, may be handed down to the latest posterity; so that these gallant seamen, who constitute the admiration of the present, may become the models of a future age.

DR. THOMAS KIPLING,

DEAN OF PETERBOROUGH.

THE subject of this memoir has long been known to those who are connected with the university of Cambridge, as deputy-professor of divinity. His edition of Beza's manuscript afterwards extended his reputation to a wider circle, and his late work on the most

most important controversy which for many ages has agitated the English church, fully entitles him to be considered among the Public Characters of the time.

Dr. Thomas Kipling is a native of Yorkshire. In 1764 he was admitted a student of St. John's College, Cambridge. In 1768 he took his bachelor's degree, and on this occasion, he had the honour of being placed first on the list of those who distinguished themselves in the senate-house examination.

He was soon elected a fellow, and afterwards became one of the tutors of his college. In this capacity he read lectures on optics, among other subjects; and it being understood that he had cultivated this branch of science with particular attention, and had collected valuable materials relating to it, he was requested by the tutors of the university to publish a treatise which should, in some degree, be an abridgment of Smith's Optics, a book at that time very scarce, although it was the only one which could be recommended to the academical reader.

By complying with the request he did not, however, promote his reputation. The work which he produced could not indeed be justly accused either of great faults, or of not answering the purposes for which it was designed; but unfortunately he prefixed to it a preface, which afforded a fruitful subject to the wits of the university. The following passage, in particular, was not considered without astonishment by his mathematical readers: after having mentioned the works of Emerson and Harris, he proceeds thus: "It is not intended in this

this character of the writings of others to intimate, in the slightest degree, that the following treatise is faultless: it contains many inaccuracies, and even some *errors*, of which the editor was fully sensible before he sent the work to the press, but was restrained from correcting them by the *dread of reprehension*." The dread of reprehension may then restrain a mathematician from correcting errors! But who would reprehend him? If errors existed, he could demonstrate that they existed, and all who loved truth would be grateful to the sagacity which had detected them.

Dr. Kipling's reasons should be stated. "The only method of correction was a complete commentary on the text, or frequent alterations. But besides that such a commentary would have been as tedious and troublesome as a new treatise on the subject, there were other objections against it too obvious to be mentioned; and to have erased and corrected the text of an eminent writer, however judiciously, might have been deemed by some an impertinent presumption, and an unjust treatment of the author." The first apology for retaining the errors of Dr. Smith, is merely that they could not be corrected without considerable labour; an apology which an author should not have offered, and which the public cannot regard as satisfactory. It is impossible to divine those objections which Dr. Kipling says are too obvious to be mentioned; but when he was moved by the fear of being thought presumptuous and unjust, he should have combated his apprehensions, by considering that such opinions could not be entertained by the enlightened part

part of his readers, and that the permanent admiration of even the ignorant can be obtained only by despising their prejudices, and supporting, in defiance of all opposition, the cause of knowledge and of truth.

This unfortunate preface did, however, no serious injury to the reputation of Dr. Kipling. He was known to be a man of learning, and many of those who have laughed, respected his abilities and attainments. The best proof of the estimation in which he was held is, that when the Bishop of Llandaff determined to retire from the university, and looked round for a deputy to discharge the important duties of the professor of divinity, he was directed to Dr. Kipling, by the superiority of his character and qualifications.

It has been much the fashion at Cambridge to decry his conduct in the divinity chair. This disposition arose more from his want of splendid than of useful qualities. Those who had heard only Dr. Kipling moderate, might reasonably urge that he did not give to the schools all that dignity of which they are capable; and the few who had been long resident in the university might be allowed to regret the eloquence of Dr. Watson, and the wonderful stores of erudition which Dr. Rutherforth was able to lavish on every subject.

In learning, however, Dr. Kipling was never thought deficient; though his knowledge could not come in competition with that which a vigorous mind, employed with incessant exertion during a long life, had enabled Dr. Rutherforth to acquire. Dr. Rutherforth

forth was in modern times a prodigy of learning, one of those who reminded his cotemporaries of what was performed by the scholars of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. But the situation of the professor of divinity, which is the first in the university of Cambridge, was adequate to his abilities. His works, which declare the extent of his acquisitions, are not, however, animated by much genius, and prove that he was one of those who are more able to accumulate knowledge, than to communicate or extend it.

The character of Dr. Watson was completely opposite to this. He displayed powers of speaking, and talents for debate, which threw into the shade the massive learning of his predecessor. Those who envied him his great and early honours, required from him more theology, and insinuated that he could not supply it; but their cavils were best refuted by a question, which was often asked at that time, "Whether the university contained a more able theologian?" The fact was, that Dr. Watson, ambitious of reputation, saw the honours of learning pre-occupied by Dr. Rutherforth, and therefore determined to shine by the arts of eloquence, as much because they were favourable to his glory, as because they were congenial to his abilities.*

In 1793, Dr. Kipling published an edition of the celebrated manuscript presented by Theodore Beza to the university of Cambridge. The office of editor was conferred on him by a vote of the senate, and the

* Dr. Watson was elected regius professor of divinity in 1771, when he was a master of arts of only nine years standing.

diligence

diligence and accuracy with which he executed it did honour to the choice of that body, and to himself.

It was indeed objected by his enemies, who noticed some errors in the preface, that his Latin was deficient in grammatical purity. But these errors might, with no excess of candour, be imputed rather to oversight than to the want of that knowledge which should have avoided them; since the general stile of the composition is not only free from such blots, but deserves the praise of neatness, if not of elegance, and by no means disappoints the expectations excited by a work delivered to the world under the sanction of a learned university.

The manuscript of Beza is of very great antiquity; it is supposed to have been written in Egypt about the eighth century. After various fortunes, through which the sagacity of the critics has in vain endeavoured to trace it, it came at length into the hands of Theodore Beza. By him it was presented to the university of Cambridge, who, in a letter to that eminent reformer, expressed a high and just sense of its value. It remained in the public library, accessible only to those who resided in Cambridge, till the labours of Dr. Kipling, assisted by the support of the senate, published it for the general advantage of biblical scholars.

About this time Dr. Kipling was placed in the unpleasant situation of promoter in the trial of Mr. Frend. They who are acquainted with the circumstances of this trial, will recollect the vigorous defence of Mr. Frend, and his endeavours to cast odium and ridicule

on

on his accusers. The little absurdities of which Dr. Kipling had been guilty in his conduct and writings, assisted the attacks which were made upon him. There is no reason, however, to believe what was insinuated, that the deanery of Peterborough, to which he was preferred soon after the trial, was conferred in consequence of the part which he took in it.

In the summer of 1802 he resigned the deputy-professorship of divinity, in consequence, it is said, of ill health. He was succeeded by Dr. Scale, a scholar of distinguished reputation, whose abilities have restored to the divinity chair that splendour of which it must be allowed it suffered a partial eclipse.

In the course of this summer was published his tract to prove that the Articles of the Church of England are not calvinistical. There has long existed among the English divines a party who received them in this sense, without exciting much attention in the reſt of the body; but the progress it has lately made, owing to the ability and industry with which its peculiar opinions have been propagated, is such as cannot any longer be overlooked or despised by those who judge them hostile to the purity of orthodox faith.

Dr. Kipling appears to have been roused, in particular, by an open and distinct profession of their tenets advanced in "Overton's true Churchman ascertained," published in 1801. This work contains a laboured vindication of the calvinistical clergy, claims for them the merit of orthodoxy, and endeavours to

prove that those who differ from them have either mistaken, or wilfully perverted the intentions and spirit of the divines who composed the thirty-nine articles of our church.

This is not an opportunity for discussing the merits of the disputants. In an answer which appeared to Dr. Kipling's work, he is accused of indecent violence, and of having uncharitably imputed dishonest motives to his adversaries. But the accusation was presently retorted, in a reply by "a Friend of the Dean of Peterborough," who addresses Mr. Mitchel, of King's College, Cambridge, as the author of "The Answer," and informs him, in plain terms, that he is a downright libeller. Such are the precious fruits of controversy!

In a second edition of his tract, Dr. Kipling replied with great warmth and ability to the criticisms with which it was attacked by the Christian Observer. This periodical work is conducted by a party of the cavinistical clergy, and as it is avowedly devoted to the dissemination of their principles, Dr. Kipling might reasonably expect that they would resist with their whole force his endeavours to deprive them of the ground of orthodoxy, on which it is so much their interest and wish to appear to stand.

This publication displays great ability and learning. It has been the instrument of directing the public attention to a very interesting question. On the merits of the two parties we shall not venture to give any opinion. On the state of them it may be observed, that the great body both of the dignified and inferior clergy rejects

rejects the calvinistical interpretation of the articles; but the contemplation of their numbers, and the indifference with which established opinions are always regarded, renders them inactive in defence of the cause they approve. The followers of Calvin are more formidable from their abilities than from their numbers. Their opinions are calculated to flatter and inflame popular feelings: the pretence, or the reality of superior sanctity, impresses with irresistible force these opinions on minds already prepared to receive them. They act with all the advantages attending an attack, and they display a vigour excited by the survey of what they have done, and of what remains to be done, by the greatness of their labour, and of its reward.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

GENERAL SIR WILLIAM MEDOWS, K.B.

ZEAL and courage are necessary qualities in a soldier. When bravery is backed by the former quality, the greatest dangers, difficulties, and fatigues are overcome. To these must be united a natural inclination for war, in order to constitute a great general; for it is that inward impulse which contributes so efficaciously to effect it, while appearing in arms at an early age, helps not a little to ensure success. From the actions of an officer we are enabled to estimate his talents, and appreciate the force of those powerful stimulants, and that love of glory, which induce generous minds to acquire excellence, praise, and re-

wards. In the following character, which we hold up to our military readers for example and imitation, will be demonstrated the truth of our observations.

Sir William Medows was born on the 31st of December, 1738. He is the third son of Philip Medows, Esq. and grandson to Sir Philip Medows, knight marshal. His eldest surviving brother, who succeeded to the estates of his uncle, the last Duke of Kingston, in 1788, took on that occasion the family name of Pierrepoint, and was elevated to the peerage in 1796, by the title of Lord Viscount Newark.

The subject of the following pages entered into the service as an ensign in the fiftieth regiment, in the year 1756, and obtained a lieutenancy in November of the following year. In one of the expeditions to the coast of France, in 1758, planned by the great Lord Chatham, he acted as aid-de-camp to Lord Ancram. When the fiftieth regiment was ordered to Germany, in the beginning of 1760, he repaired thither with it, and joined the allied army under those able generals Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, and the Marquis of Granby. He was present in many of the subsequent actions, in which he greatly distinguished himself as an attentive, active, and good officer.

In March 1764, after his return from the continent, his friend Lord Ancram obtained for him a troop in the fourth regiment of horse, in Ireland, now called the seventh dragoon guards, of which his patron was lieutenant-colonel; and in October 1766, Captain Medows succeeded to the majority of the same corps.

Emulous

Emulous for promotion, in a profession for which his talents and knowledge were eminently adapted, he procured, on the 31st of December, 1769, the lieutenant-colonelcy of the fifth regiment of foot, commanded by Earl Percy, now Duke of Northumberland, who the year before had succeeded to that corps. However much he liked serving under his Lordship, yet being partial to the cavalry, he was removed to the twelfth light dragoons in September 1773.

On the breaking out of the American war, as there was no prospect of the regiment he was in being employed, he exchanged into the fifty-fifth, in September 1775, and repaired with it to America. The acquisition of such an officer as Colonel Medows was soon after noticed in a distinguished manner by the commander in chief, who appointed him to the command of the first brigade of grenadiers; an appointment which, from the honour attending it, equally reflected credit on both officers. At the head of this gallant body of men, on which the brunt of every brilliant action fell, particularly that of Brandywine, fought September 13, 1776, he distinguished himself in the most signal manner. In the abovementioned battle Colonel Medows was wounded.

The lieutenant-colonelcy of the fifth regiment of foot, which he highly valued, becoming vacant, an application was made for it to the commander in chief, General Sir William (now Lord Viscount) Howe, and it was accordingly conferred in November 1777; on the 25th of the same month he obtained the rank of colonel by brevet. It is almost needless to remark,

that the commander in chief seized every occasion, in his official dispatches, to praise Colonel Medows for his gallant conduct.

France having taken an active part in the war between Great Britain and her colonies, it was determined by the English cabinet to strike a blow at her West India islands, and for this purpose the commander in chief in North America was ordered to send a detachment of his army to act in that quarter. Major-general Grant was accordingly appointed for this purpose, together with a body of chosen troops. The Colonels Medows and Prescott* were nominated Brigadier-generals to this little army, a measure which, from the glory and success acquired, fully exhibited the wisdom that prevailed at head-quarters.

The troops from North America having rendezvouzed at Barbadoes, were joined by others from the mother country. The capture of St. Lucia (which from its excellent harbours had proved of great service to the enemy in these seas) was deemed an important object, in consequence of which, in December 1778, General Grant, with five thousand men, and the two Brigadier-generals, left English harbour, and on the evening of the 13th the troops effected a landing. Brigadier-general Medows's brigade, consisting of the fifth foot, together with the grenadiers and light infantry companies of the different regiments, in all

* Now General Robert Prescott, Colonel of the twenty-eighth regiment of foot, Governor of Canada, &c. an excellent officer, who in three successive wars has distinguished himself in the most gallant and meritorious manner.

about

about one thousand three hundred men, formed the reserve of this little army. The place he landed at was the Grand Cul de Sac, on accomplishing which, he pushed forward to gain possession of the heights on the north-side of the bay, where the French regular and militia forces, under the Chevalier de Micond, were strongly posted. Though this was a very arduous task in so hot a country, and became peculiarly difficult from the nature of the ground, yet the Brigadier-general, at the head of his gallant followers, forced the passes, seized on a field piece, which they had repeatedly fired at him with effect when landing, and afterwards a four gun battery that greatly annoyed the shipping at the entrance of the harbour.

In the mean time, Brigadier-general Prescott with five regiments had advanced against Morne Fortuné, of which he soon got possession. To drive the French commandant from post to post, until the island was in our possession, was the plan of the Generals, and gallantly did the former defend them. The most important of these posts was the Vigié, commanding the north side of the Careenage, against which Brigadier-general Medows, under a burning sun, led his brave brigade, and carried it. During this whole affair, to use the words of a celebrated writer, "celerity in execution, and prudence in securing, and immediately turning to account every advantage obtained in war, were never more necessary, nor ever more eminently displayed, than upon this occasion." The possession of the Vigié, with the different batteries, gave the assailants the entire command of the

neck of land dividing the two bays of Du Choque and Careenage. In all these repeated conflicts the loss on our side was very small.

The Count D'Estaing, who commanded a powerful squadron in these seas, on board of which were nine thousand land forces, on learning that an attack was meditated on St. Lucia, determined to relieve it prior to any attempt on our islands. The rapid movements, however, of the British generals, who had succeeded in getting possession of all the strong posts, enabled them to beat him off on the 18th of December. This commander was not a little surprised when on entering the Careenage with his fleet, a battery immediately opened on him. He then attempted the Grand Cul de Sac, where the British squadron, although greatly inferior in point of numbers, also repulsed him. Irritated at this, he determined to attempt a landing on the peninsula between the two bays already mentioned, and which he of course effected.

In the mean time, General Grant, with the troops under Brigadier-general Prescott, occupied all the strong holds on the heights on either side of the Grand Cul de Sac, and the detached posts near to the Careenage, about two miles in length. Brigadier-general Medows was stationed, or rather shut up, in the peninsula between Morne Fortuné and the Vigié, in which situation he was cut off from the support of the main body, any farther than what might be derived from the batteries near the bottom of the bay. D'Estaing with five thousand of his best troops, among which number were his boasted grenadiers, accordingly advanced

vanced against him in three columns, the right commanded by himself, the centre by M. de Lavendahl, and the left by the Marquis de Bouillé, while the remainder of the French received orders to watch the British under the Generals Grant and Prescott.

Brigadier-general Medows, with an army in front and rear, and exposed to the fire of the French men of war, waited in silence the approach of D'Estaing's columns. The orders he gave to his men were to let the enemy advance close to the line before they fired, after which to make use of the bayonet. With the greatest gallantry the French advanced three different times to the charge, and were as often beat back. After the last they were broken, thrown into confusion, and could not again be led on, so that Brigadier-general Medows was left complete master of the field. The enemy had four hundred men killed, five hundred desperately wounded, and six hundred slightly, forming all together a number superior to the British opposed to them.

The loss on our part was very trifling. The gallant General was severely wounded in the right arm; and although his attendants and the medical gentlemen begged him to quit the field, yet he continued to inspire his men with the courageous resolution either to conquer or die. Seeing the fifth regiment in some confusion during this desperate attack, waving his sword in his left hand towards their standard, he enthusiastically exclaimed, "Soldiers! as long as you have a bayonet left to point against the breasts of your enemies, defend these colours." General Grant in his

his dispatches praises the Brigadier-general and his brave men in a strain of eloquence worthy of a soldier: speaking of the enemy, he says, "their two first attacks were made with the impetuosity of Frenchmen, and they were repulsed with the determined bravery of Britons." D'Estaing staid ten days to refresh his beaten army, but did not attempt another enterprize, and Micand surrendered the settlement a short time after.

General Grant having received information that the island of Grenada, of which Lord Macartney was governor, had been attacked by D'Estaing, embarked all the troops that could be spared, and with the British fleet sailed to its relief, the beginning of July 1779. On the 6th the two fleets hove in sight of each other, when an action commenced; but it was not decisive, as the enemy, whose vessels were in far better condition than ours, did not wish to hazard any thing, and were apprehensive of losing Grenada, which had that very day capitulated. General Grant and his brave coadjutor Medows were therefore only spectators of an action they could not partake in; after which they bore away for Antigua, and D'Estaing returned to Grenada.

The conduct of Brigadier-general Medows was warmly applauded by his Majesty, who, as a reward for his meritorious services, appointed him colonel of the eighty-ninth regiment, on the 15th of November, 1780, and ordered him to England to command a body of forces to be employed on a secret expedition.

In the Spring of 1781, Commodore Johnstone was appointed

appointed to direct the operations of a squadron, consisting of one seventy-four, one sixty-four, three fifties, three frigates, two sloops, two cutters, a fire ship, a bomb vessel, two ordnance store-ships, and several transports, on board of which were embarked three thousand men, under the command of our Brigadier-general.

The object of this armament was to seize on the Cape of Good Hope, which would have proved an important acquisition for Great-Britain. It appears from an anonymous pamphlet, assuredly written by Commodore Johnstone, and published in 1787, in which part of the secret instructions are detailed, that the Commodore and General were "to concert the necessary measures for carrying into immediate execution, and exert their utmost endeavours to take the Cape of Good Hope with all its defences, fortifications, and works thereunto belonging." No attempt was, however, to be made unless in consequence of good intelligence, and that the scheme appeared feasible to both officers. In case of failure, or success particular men of war were to proceed to the East Indies with the Company's ships and part of the troops, the remainder to go to the West Indies; and it was left to the General either to repair to the latter, or return to England.

On the 13th of March the squadron, with thirteen Indiamen under convoy, sailed from St. Helen's, and on the 10th of April following they anchored in Port Praya bay, St. Jago, one of the Cape de Verd islands. The French cabinet soon learned the destination of this

this fleet, and accordingly endeavoured to counteract it, by sending the Bailli de Suffrein with a powerful force after the British. On the 16th of the same month he appeared off the bay, and attacked Commodore Johnstone. After an hour and half's smart action the enemy fled, and were pursued by the British, who endeavoured to force them to renew the combat, but without effect. As the Romney, on board of which the Commodore had his broad pendant flying, could not act at a particular time, he shifted to the Hero. On this occasion, as he states in his letter to the Earl of Hillsborough, one of his Majesty's principal secretaries of state, "General Medows insisted on accompanying me on board, with a degree of generosity and good humour which I could not resist. It is pleasant to be near the General at all times; but on the day of battle that satisfaction is felt in a peculiar degree." The troops on board the different ships were of signal service during this unexpected rencounter.

On the 2d of May, after repairing its damages, the British squadron sailed for the Cape. While at sea, a correspondence passed between the Commodore and the General, which is detailed in the pamphlet already mentioned. From it we will select a few particulars, explanatory of the failure of this expedition. A detached part of the squadron fell in, on the 4th of July, with a homeward-bound Dutch East Indiaman, and from her was learned the arrival of Suffrein at the Cape, where he had landed five hundred men, eighty or ninety of whom were artillery; that five Indiamen were

were lying in Saldanha bay; and that Hyder Ally had invaded our possessions in the East Indies, and defeated an army commanded by Captain Bayly. These different heads of intelligence occasioned much reflection, and frequent deliberations, and as the two commanders did not entirely agree in opinion, they committed their thoughts to writing, as before mentioned.

The points to be considered were, whether it was practicable, supposing the intelligence true, to attempt the Cape, and what was the best mode of doing it? On the other hand, if it was not practicable, whether it would be proper, in consequence of Colonel Bayly's defeat, to deviate from the instructions, and send the whole of the troops to the East Indies? And lastly, whether they should at all events previously endeavour to take or destroy the Indiamen in Saldanha bay?

Commodore Johnstone thought, notwithstanding Suffrein's arrival, it was possible to succeed in taking the Cape; that for this purpose the troops should be landed at Saldanha bay, forty-two miles from the Cape fortress, to which they ought immediately to march; and at all events the Indiamen were to be attacked.

General Medows, on the other hand, considered the expedition against the Cape impracticable, after the arrival of the succours under Suffrein; that it was hazardous to attempt making the attack by landing at Saldanha bay, from the distance and difficulties which he detailed; and lastly, he was against the measure of attempting the Indiamen.

Although

Although the two commanders differed much, yet in one very necessary thing they agreed, the sending the whole of the troops to India, to repair the loss of Colonel Bayly's army. To this spirited determination the preservation of the Carnatic, and perhaps all India, may be ascribed. The men of war also which were detached with them served as a powerful reinforcement to Admiral Hughes, and enabled him to cope with Suffrein, who possessed a superior fleet. In short, the Governor-general and council imputed the salvation of the Carnatic to General Medows, and the troops that he brought with him from the Cape.

The Commodore, however, took the responsibility of attacking the Indiamen on himself, and on the 20th of July he gave out his orders for carrying it into execution on the following day. The General also, as an able and experienced military man, furnished the necessary instructions and plans to the different officers under him. As the ships worked into the bay, the Dutch seeing their intention, cut the cables of the Indiamen, ran on shore, and set fire to them. This latter circumstance had been foreseen and provided for; the boats of the squadron therefore boarded them with rapidity, and succeeded in extinguishing the flames in all the vessels, except the Middleburgh, the Dutch admiral's ship, which burned with incredible fury, and drifting, was near setting two others on fire. Commodore Johnstone seeing this, determined, at the hazard of every danger, to tow her off stern foremost, and with his own hands succeeded in fixing a grapple, by which effort she was removed

removed to a considerable distance, where she blew up ten minutes after quitting her. General Medows also assisted personally in this dangerous service, and by his presence greatly contributed to the advantage gained. The captured ships were from a thousand to eleven hundred tons burthen.

Commodore Johnstone still thinking the attack on the Cape practicable, made the following proposal to his colleague on the 24th of July, in presence of Captains Paisley and Saltern: "I do engage, General, to land you and your troops, either in Table or False bay, whichever you chuse; but I do not promise to keep up an uninterrupted communication with you, if Mons. Suffrein should make a movement with his squadron to attack me."

The other to this made answer, that "his whole force did not amount to above one thousand nine hundred bayonets to land, and they such troops as he did not choose to risque his reputation on, and therefore he conceived he might as well think of attacking Paris as the Cape under these circumstances. His sentiments had been invariable ever since the French squadron had preceded the British; that all attempts could only be considered as the height of rashness, and unbecoming the character of a soldier, and therefore he wished only to be dispatched to India, without loss of time, for he would positively not land to attack the Cape."

The Dutch Indiamen being put in a condition for sailing, the Commodore dispatched them to St. Helena, there to wait for him; and having arranged the

ships

ships that were to convoy General Medows, the troops, and Company's vessels, saw them beyond the Cape, to the fourth degree of longitude, when he conceived all risque of their being intercepted by Suffrein at an end.

While the two commanders remained together, General Medows delivered in a claim for himself and the troops for a separate share of the prizes, agreeable to the King's instructions, which stated, "that the booty which should be gained from the enemy by the joint operations of the navy and army at the attack of the Cape of Good Hope, should be divided into two shares, according to the numbers mustered in each service, and that one share should go to the army, and the other to the navy." The attack and capture of the Indiamen were considered by him within the spirit of these instructions; but the navy contended they only related to the Cape of Good Hope, and not to ships taken by the squadron either at sea, or in bays or harbours of any sort. However, Commodore Johnstone, in a letter, dated the 27th of July, to General Medows, says, "I am sorry to hear there is a likelihood of disputes and litigation concerning the sharing of the produce of the ships we took in Saldanha bay. This I can assure you of, there shall be no dispute between you and me on this subject; and I now declare in writing, what I said by word of mouth, that I am of opinion the army is entitled to share according to the King's instructions. It does not become me to prejudice my own corps, nor would it be prudent to irritate them; and therefore I shall rest satisfied

fied with giving my poor opinion, and doing what I think right myself, without further interference, leaving the rest to more infallible judges."

Having mentioned this circumstance, which took its rise from some of the Commodore's officers wishing that the army should only share as the seamen did, according to the act of parliament, it may not be improper to state the result of the business. In the admiralty court, in September 1782, the prizes were condemned generally, reserving the question who were the captors. The General, in the name of his troops, put in a claim for one half, and, in May 1785, the Judge of the high court of admiralty pronounced, "for the interest of the army, agreeable to the spirit of his Majesty's instructions, to be distributed according to the directions of his Majesty's said instructions."

Commodore Johnstone thinking he had fulfilled his orders returned to England with two prizes, and the General with the transports and Indiamen, under convoy of Commodore Almo, steered for Asia. On the 1st of June, 1781, the latter obtained the local rank of major-general in the East Indies, and in November of the following year the same was confirmed in the army. On his arrival in India he was nominated governor of Madras, as well as commander in chief of the forces in that presidency; and he took uncommon pains to organize the army before he led it against Tippoo Sultaun, who had succeeded to the throne of Mysore by Hyder Ally's death. In the accomplishment of this organization he met with many obstacles, but

by his consummate military skill he overcame them all.

The plan he formed was, with the Carnatic army, of fifteen thousand men, to occupy the Coimbatore country, cut off Tippoo's supplies, and by that quarter penetrate into the Mysore through the Jujulhatty Pass, while Major-general Robert Abercrombie was with the Bombay army to reduce the territory west of the Gauts, and, if necessary, form a junction. In the mean time, the Carnatic was left to the care of Colonel Kelly, with a small army stationed between Madras and the passes leading to the Mysore.

Tippoo, alarmed at the judicious alteration which had taken place on the part of the British troops under General Medows, endeavoured to avert the storm by writing to that officer, congratulating him on his appointment to the government of Madras, and proposing to send some confidential person to explain, as he observed, several important circumstances, "so that the dust which had obscured the General's upright mind might be removed." The latter's answer was, "I received yours, and understand its contents. You are a great prince, and, but for your cruelty to your prisoners, I should add an enlightened one. The English, equally incapable of offering an insult as of submitting to one, have always looked upon war as declared from the moment that you attacked their ally the king of Travancore. God does not always give the battle to the strong, nor the race to the swift, but generally success to those whose cause is just. On that we depend."

After

After repeated attacks on different points by Tippoo, and the capture of several important posts by the British army, General Medows judged it prudent on the commencement of the rainy season to desist from any farther operations. He accordingly took up his quarters at Vellant; but during the whole of this campaign, in which Tippoo experienced many reverses of fortune, the conduct of General Medows proved highly creditable to his talents as a commanding officer.

The following year the Earl Cornwallis, who had been appointed Governor-general, assumed the direction of the army at Vellant. He was much pleased at the appearance and discipline of it, and expressed himself in handsome terms to General Medows, who was second in command in India.

His Lordship being determined to carry the war into Tippoo's own territories, made arrangements accordingly. His first intention being to get possession of all the strong holds, he began with Bangalore, on the 5th of March 1791. The town soon surrendered, but the fort held out until the 21st, when it was stormed.

On the 3d of May the army moved forward to Seringapatam. Tippoo, who was then in his capital, immediately occupied the ground in front of the works with a numerous army. The road to the camp was through a narrow valley, full of swamps and ravines. Deterred by the difficulties accompanying his route, his Lordship formed the resolution of conducting his troops by means of a circuit round the

hills, with a hope of surprizing the Sultaun. After a laborious march from eleven o'clock at night till day-break he got within three miles of the camp, without being perceived, but he was soon after discovered; on which Tippoo seized on a height, commanding a ravine that the British must pass, and pointed some cannon, which for a moment checked them. To dislodge the enemy, Colonel Maxwell with one column pushed forward and made himself master of the hill; the army followed, and a general action took place. Colonel Maxwell pressed the foe on the left flank, while Colonel Floyd with the cavalry did the same on the right, and the line under General Medows attacked in front. The Sultaun being obliged to give way, took refuge under his batteries, and his Lordship encamped on the field of battle.

Successful as the opening of the campaign had proved, Lord Cornwallis, instead of attacking Tippoo on his island, formed the resolution of joining General Robert Abercrombie's army, who was then at Periapatam waiting for orders. Provisions, it was said, were scarce, the bullocks for the cannon sickly, and reduced in number, while the army had suffered much hardship. Two days after, he marched back to Ranambaddy, and afterwards to Bangalore. While on the march he was joined by the Mahratta army, consisting of thirty-two thousand men; but as it was too late to attempt another attack on the Sultaun this season, Lord Cornwallis and his allies determined to do it the next. In the mean time, all the forts which might oppose the passage of the British convoys from the

the Carnatic to Bangalore were reduced. Among many others, that of Nundrydroog afforded great credit to the captors: it is seated on a lofty mountain, one thousand seven hundred feet high, accessible only on one side, where it is defended by walls and redoubts. Major Goldie, who was sent against it after a fortnight's toil and hazard, at length breached the walls, but the commandant refused to surrender. Lord Cornwallis sent General Medows with a party to make the assault. On approaching, some person remarked that a mine was supposed to be near the breach. The General, with a spirit and presence of mind which few would have possessed in similar circumstances, replied, "that if a mine was really there, it was a mine of gold," and rushed without delay to the attack. The assailants were terribly annoyed by the garrison, not only by means of fire-arms, but also with defensive weapons; nevertheless General Medows carried the place.

Having thus taken the important fortresses of Savendroog and Dutradroog, Lord Cornwallis with the allies again moved towards Seringapatam. On his arrival in its neighbourhood, he determined on giving a general assault during the night. The army accordingly moved in three divisions, the right commanded by General Medows, the centre by the Commander in Chief, and the left by Colonel Maxwell. The centre division having first given the alarm, and entered the intrenchments, the enemy fled precipitately, but not until a skirmish ensued, during which his Lordship was wounded in the hand. General Me-

dows with his division also passed the bound hedge without opposition, and advanced against the Ead-Gah or mosque redoubt, which he carried after a gallant resistance from the enemy. He then proceeded, as agreed upon, to join his Lordship; but with a view of avoiding some swampy ground, he took a greater circuit than he intended, and crossing the track of the centre division without observing it, arrived at length, to his inexpressible surprize and vexation, at the Pagoda hill, where Lord Cornwallis joined him at day-break. This circumstance, it is said, was a matter of so much concern to the brave General as nearly to cause his death, although in every sense it was a misfortune which too often occurs during night attacks. Many instances in point could be produced, if necessary.

After various efforts on the part of Tippoo, his Lordship succeeded in driving him within the walls, and he encamped with the British on the very spot the Sultaun had taken post in. The latter brought every gun he could to bear on the British army, which now commenced a regular siege; but on the 24th of February hostilities ceased, and on the 19th of March, 1792, a pacification took place. The commander in chief in his letter to the East India Company, dated the 4th of March, says, "No words can express the sense that I shall entertain through life of the ability, refined generosity, and friendship with which General Medows has invariably given his support and assistance."

After the termination of this war General Medows returned

returned to England, and as a reward for his many signal services, his Majesty was pleased to invest him with the insignia of the order of the Bath, which he so well merited.

In 1783, his regiment (the eighty-ninth) was disbanded, in consequence of the reduction of the army at the peace; but his Majesty gave him the command of the seventy-third, or Highland regiment, one of the five new corps raised in 1787 to serve in the East Indies.

On the 12th of October, 1793, he was made a lieutenant-general, and in November 1796 he was removed from the seventy-third to the command of the seventh dragoon guards, in which he had served both as a captain and major. At the brevet promotion of the 1st of January 1798 he was made a general, and governor of the Isle of Wight. During the late war he was constantly on the staff, and commanded one of the districts in England.

After the Marquis Cornwallis had resigned the viceroyship of Ireland, and the command of the forces in that part of the united kingdom, it was necessary he should be succeeded in the latter situation by an officer of talents and reputation. His Majesty accordingly thought none more worthy of that appointment than General Sir William Medows: his commission bears date June 9, 1801. He soon after went to Ireland, and was sworn in a member of his Majesty's most honourable privy council there.

In that country he remained until a short time since, when we believe at his own request he was

allowed to resign, and has been succeeded by Lieutenant general Fox. While in the high office alluded to, his attention to the duties of it, and that too at the conclusion of a long war, was unremitting, and, as on former occasions, highly honourable to him.

By his appointment as commander of the forces, he became governor of Kilmainham hospital, near Dublin, where he resided; and on every occasion shewed that humane disposition he is conspicuous for, to relieve or anticipate the wants of the pensioners in it. His frequent visits to them when at dinner, and the inspection of the messes, bedding, and interior œconomy of these brave veterans, forms a noble trait in the character of this gallant officer, and must make his retirement justly regretted.

Such are the actions of General Sir William Medows, during a period of near fifty years that he has served his King and country, and his character well merits a place in this work, as it is eminently conspicuous for honour, courage, humanity, and virtue.

MR. ALMON.

In arbitrary monarchies we hear only of statesmen, nobles, and men of the sword, because ministers and generals alone occupy situations of eminence, and engage the attention of the public. But in mixed or free governments, the case is widely different; for every one who contributes to the benefit of the state, or adds to the stock of knowledge, by his talents or his information, becomes an object of consideration and curiosity

curiosity on the part of the people. In the course of this publication we have frequently brought forward men from the shade of retirement, whose works were far better known than their characters; upon the present occasion, we introduce a man connected by his writings and his abilities with the politics of this country, and who, like Nicolai of Berlin, has united the profession of a man of letters with that of a bookseller.

Mr. John Almon was born at Liverpool, in Lancashire, about the year 1738, and received his education at Warrington, near Liverpool. In or about the year 1748 he was put apprentice to Mr. Williamson, bookseller, of Liverpool, by his uncle, his parents dying when he was very young. In 1756 he went abroad, and visited several parts of Holland, France, Italy, Spain, and Africa. In 1758 or 1759 he returned to England, and came to London, where he soon became known to several of the wits of the day. His first literary acquaintance was Dr. Goldsmith, who at this time was writing his "Bee," which none of the writers of Goldsmith's life have mentioned. It was published in numbers by J. Wilkie, in St. Paul's Church-yard. Mr. Almon was afterwards intimate with the Rev. Mr. Charles Churchill the poet, Mr. Robert Lloyd, together with the celebrated John Wilkes, Esq. and many more.

His first literary production, at least the first that was acknowled by him, was a pamphlet entitled "The Conduct of a late noble Commander examined;" alluding to the behaviour of Lord George Sackville at the

the battle of Minden. It was published in the month of September, 1759, by S. Fuller, near St. Martin's-le-grand, and went through two editions.

His next work was "A Military Dictionary," a volume in folio, published in weekly numbers; "containing a circumstantial account of the most remarkable battles and sieges, by sea and land, from the reign of Charlemagne to the year 1760."

At the beginning of the year 1760, the late Mr. John Newberry and other booksellers entered into a resolution to bring out a new daily newspaper. At that time there were only three of this description in London, viz. the Daily Advertiser, printed by J. Jenour; the Gazetteer, by C. Say; and the Public Advertiser, by W. Woodfall; all sold at twopence-halfpenny each. The new paper alluded to was called "The Public Ledger," the first number of which was published on the 12th day of January 1760. Mr. Newberry engaged Dr. Goldsmith to furnish articles, and in it originated his "Chinese Letters;" the first letter was printed on the 24th day of January 1760.

The design of this new paper was acknowledged by its proprietors to rival the Gazetteer. This avowal alarmed Mr. Say, the printer, very much; he therefore, without any loss of time, engaged Mr. Almon, at a handsome salary, to assist him. That gentleman accordingly wrote much, under various signatures. The letters signed "An Independent Whig" were all his productions, as well as many of those on the resignation of Mr. Legge, Lord Temple,

Mr.

Mr. Pitt, afterwards Earl of Chatham, the Duke of Newcastle, the Duke of Devonshire, and upon other political topics. These, with many others connected with them, were collected and reprinted twice, first in four volumes small duodecimo, and next in two volumes octavo, under the title of " A Collection of interesting Letters from the Public Papers."

His pen, however, was not entirely confined to the newspaper. Upon the death of King George the Second, which happened in the month of October 1760, he wrote " A Review of his Majesty's Reign," which was published in February 1761, in one volume octavo, and went through two editions. A few days after the publication of it, the Duke of Bedford sent Mr. Butcher, one of his stewards, to Mr. Wilkie, bookseller, in St. Paul's Church-yard, who was the publisher, on purpose to find out the author. Mr. Wilkie answered, that he was not at liberty to disclose the name, but would inform him of the Duke's message; however, Mr. Almon did not chuse to go to his Grace, because the Duke had recently attached himself to Lord Bute, and Mr. Almon had already espoused the other side.

In the month of October 1761, Mr. Pitt, afterwards Lord Chatham, resigned the office of secretary of state. The success which the Review of the Reign of George the Second had met with, induced Mr. Almon to write " A Review of Mr. Pitt's Administration," which he dedicated to Earl Temple; it was a thin volume in octavo, and went through no less than four editions. His Lordship was so well pleased with

with the book, that he sent for the author; and Mr. Almon waited on him at the time appointed. Earl Temple received him in the most polite and gracious manner: and through life honoured him with the warmest friendship, patronage, and esteem. This laid the foundation of Mr. Almon's popularity, fame, and fortune. In all the politics of that nobleman he took an active part, and as his Lordship's professions were sincere, so his confidence was unlimited.

A few months after the accession of his present Majesty, Lord Temple happened to differ with his brother, Mr. George Grenville, on some political points, and Mr. Grenville joining with Lord Bute, this difference, by that circumstance, became encreased and embittered to no common degree. Upon this subject Mr. Almon wrote a pamphlet, which he entitled "A Letter to the Right Honourable George Grenville," to which he prefixed this motto:

'Quem maximè odisti ei maximè obsequeris: aliud stans, aliud sedens, de Republica sentis: his Maledicis, illos odisti, levissume transfuga: neque in hac, neque in illâ parte fidem habes. SALLUST.

This pamphlet went through six editions.

Mr. Charles Lloyd, private secretary to Mr. Grenville, and brother to the Dean of Norwich, wrote an answer to it, with Mr. Grenville's concurrence; in which the writer was as severe upon Lord Chatham (then Mr. Pitt), as Mr. Almon had been upon Mr. Grenville. Mr. Lloyd's pamphlet had also a very extensive circulation, and both tracts were in considerable request for several years.

About this time he wrote "An History of the Parliament

liament of Great Britain, from the Death of Queen Anne to the Death of George the Second;" also, "An Impartial History of the late War, from 1749 to 1763."

When Lord Bute resigned his post of first lord of the treasury, which was upon the 8th day of April 1763, Mr. Almon wrote "A Review of his Lordship's Administration," which went through three editions. With several interesting facts in this work he was supplied by Lord Temple; and in the letter to Mr. Grenville he was assisted by Mr. Wilkes.

On the 30th day of April 1763 three of the King's messengers entered Mr. Wilkes's house and made him prisoner, by a general warrant, upon a supposition that he was the author of the North Briton, No. 45. In about half an hour afterwards, Mr. Almon happened to call on Mr. Wilkes, who took him a little aside, told him of the circumstance, and desired he would go immediately and inform Lord Temple. The messengers did not detain Mr. Almon, which they might have done; and for which negligence they were very much blamed by Lord Halifax, because it gave rise to another circumstance which was of great importance. Mr. Almon immediately informed Earl Temple of Mr. Wilkes's situation; his Lordship requested Mr. Almon to go to Mr. Beardmore, an attorney in the city, and desire he would instantly apply to the court of common pleas for a writ of *habeas corpus*, to bring Mr. Wilkes before that court. In the mean time, the member for Aylesbury was taken by the messengers to Lord Halifax, secretary of state,

state, to be examined by him. While this examination was going on, information was brought to his Lordship that the court of common pleas had ordered a writ of habeas corpus to bring Mr. Wilkes before it; upon which it was resolved by the secretaries of state (for by this time Lord Egremont, the other secretary, was present) to *shift* the custody of the prisoner, so as to put him under the care of *other* messengers, in order to evade the writ; after which they committed him to the Tower: so that the *first* messengers returned, in answer to the writ, that he was not *in their* custody. Some days afterwards he was brought before the court, by a new process, and discharged. The remainder of this business is well known.

A few weeks after Mr. Wilkes's emancipation he erected a press in his own house, by means of which he printed his North Britons, and a few copies of a detestable poem, called an "Essay on Woman." Some scraps of this trash, by a very sinister mode, came into the hands of a Rev. Mr. Kidgell, chaplain to the Duke of Queensberry: this man very imprudently wrote a pamphlet, which he very improperly termed "A Narrative of the Poem." To the few printed copies of the poem itself was prefixed an engraved frontispiece of an antient Phallus, with these two Greek words, Ζωτηρ Κωσμου, in Greek characters. Of this frontispiece and this inscription, Mr. Kidgell gave the following account in his pamphlet: "This Essay on Woman is a parody on Mr. Pope's Essay on Man, almost line for line, printed in red. The frontispiece, engraved curiously on copper, contains the title;

title; and an obscene print, by way of decoration, under which is engraved in the Greek language and character, *the Saviour of the world*; and it is added, that there is also a commentary, to which is prefixed the name of a personage eminent for learning and character." The personage alluded to was Dr. Warburton, Bishop of Gloucester.

To this pamphlet Mr. Almon wrote a reply, which went through three editions, condemning Mr. Kidgell's conduct in the strongest terms. It was entitled "A Letter to J. Kidgell, containing a full Answer to his Narrative." It is but justice to the memory of Mr. Wilkes to make a short extract from this pamphlet, of that part which animadverts on Mr. Kidgell's account of the frontispiece, &c.

"What you say relative to the Greek inscription, which you translate *the Saviour of the world*, so fully demonstrates your illiterateness and ignorance, that though I at first intended to pass it over in silence, yet upon recollection, I must mention one word of your total want of scholarship. You ought, Sir, to have known that the words Ζωτηρ Κωσμυ, which you have translated *the Saviour of the world*, have no respect to christianity; and therefore the allusion is a blasphemy of your own, and *not* of the author of the Essay on Woman. That inscription is found upon an antient Phallus, of a date of much more remote antiquity than the birth of Christ. The account of this antique may be seen at large in "De la Chausse's Museum Romanum," printed at Rome, in folio, in 1692, and *by his own permission* dedicated to the Pope, who I suppose is a christian prince.

"The late reverend and learned Dr. Middleton, in that valuable work entitled "Germana quædam antiquitatis eruditæ monumenta, &c." has not scrupled to give the following short account of it:

"Quod quidem illustrari quodammodo videtur a symbolica quadam

quadam apud causæum priapi effigiæ, cui galli gallinacei caput crista ornatum, rostri vero loco, fascinum ingens datur: cujusque in basi litteris græcis legitur Ζωτηρ Κωσμυ. SERVATOR ORBIS. Quæ omnia vir doctus ita interpretatur. Gallum scilicet, avem soli sacram esse; solemque generatricis facultatis præsidem; pudemque ides virile gallinaceo capiti adjunctum denotare, quod a conjunctus solis priapique viribus, animalium genus omne procreatum et conservatum sit, secundum physicum quoddam Aristotelis axioma, homo hominem generat et sol."

These publications brought Mr. Almon acquainted with most of the noblemen and gentlemen who opposed the measures of the court, and who were distinguished by the name of the MINORITY. With this respectable connection and patronage, he began to turn his thoughts to the advantage of becoming his own publisher. In the year 1763 he accordingly resigned his situation in the Gazetteer, commenced bookseller in Piccadilly, opposite Burlington-house, and in a very short time his shop became the place of resort for the whole Opposition. It is not possible, nor is it necessary to give an account of all the books and tracts which were published by him: we shall only mention those which came from his own pen, or were attended by some particular circumstance.

The first of the latter description was, "A Letter concerning Libels, Warrants, the Seizure of Papers, and Sureties of the Peace or Behaviour; with a View to some late Proceedings." This work was of much celebrity: by some persons it was ascribed to Mr. Dunning, by others to Lord Camden; but the circumstance that gave it the most fame, was a prosecution, instituted at the request of Lord Mansfield, against

against Mr. Almon. The writer had attacked Lord Mansfield's doctrine of libels with great ability, freedom, and severity. The Chief Justice felt the smart so keenly, that he did not choose to permit the trial to be carried on in the usual mode, by indictment or information, but by a mode seldom resorted to, that of attachment, a summary process, in which the jury is not admitted.

The prosecution began in Jan. 1765. The passage that was selected, in order to ground the proceedings upon, was a paragraph supposed to allude to Lord Mansfield's alteration of the record in the prosecution of Mr. Wilkes, for printing the North Briton. In order to shew the affinity which the passage in the pamphlet bore to the fact, it was necessary to state the fact upon oath, which was done. And here it is proper to observe, that until this took place, the fact of altering the record was known only by report, as there was no clear evidence or authentic testimony of it. The arguments of counsel continued three terms. It was in these arguments that Mr. Dunning (who was one of Mr. Almon's counsel) first displayed those shining abilities which fixed his reputation through life. At length an error being discovered in the plaintiff's proceedings, the affair was dropt.

In July 1765 the ministry were changed. The Marquis of Rockingham and his friends accepted the offers of the court, after they had been refused by Mr. Pitt and Lord Temple; this circumstance dissolved the minority as a party; some adhered to Lord Rockingham, and some to Lord Temple. Upon this oc-

casion Mr. Almon wrote and published a book, which had a very extensive sale, called "A History of the Minority during the years 1762, 1763, 1764, and 1765, exhibiting the Conduct, Principles, and Views of that Party." There were upwards of ten thousand copies sold in little more than half a year.

On the repeal of the American Stamp-act (in 1766), Mr. Almon was warm in favour of that measure, writing and publishing a good deal in support of it. This conduct acquired great popularity for him in America, and the writers there constantly sent to him their tracts and papers. He used frequently to say, that all the British measures against America originated not in the ostensible ministers, but in a junto of American and British traitors. There was a junto in London in the pay of the natural enemy, and another at Boston in the pay of the British junto; with these, he said, originated the stamp-act, and every other fatal measure. The principles of government which Lord Bute had laid down were perfectly consistent with this policy: submission to this junto, he observed, was the tenure by which every ostensible minister held his office.

In the month of July 1766 the members of the Rockingham administration (as it was called) were removed, and Mr. Pitt and Lord Temple were again applied to. The King solicited Lord Temple personally, but his Lordship declined: Mr. Pitt, however, accepted, and was created Earl of Chatham; and the Right Hon. Charles Townshend was appointed chancellor of the exchequer. When the ministry were settled,

settled, Mr. Townshend very handsomely offered to Mr. Almon a respectable situation, and desired him to ask Lord Temple's permission to accept it; upon which Mr. Almon returned the following answer to Mr. Townshend:

"SIR, *Piccadilly, August* 20, 1766.

"It is not in language to describe the gratitude with which I am impressed by your last conversation; but it is my misfortune this year, as it was last year, to see my best friends differ. After the maturest consideration, pardon me, Sir, if I say that I cannot think of going to Stowe upon this subject. If Lord Temple consents, he must look coldly upon me ever afterwards; and if he refuses, it is putting him under an obligation to do something better whenever he comes into office. You know his Lordship's temper, he is warm and decided, particularly at the present moment. I must therefore continue to lament, in silence, this unfortunate division, anxiously looking forward to better days. But permit me to assure you, Sir, I shall never forget your exceeding kindness and attention to,

"Your very much obliged and most obedient servant,
J. ALMON."

Next year he brought out his "Royal Kalendar," and the year following he added the "Companion" to it.

In May 1767 appeared his "Political Register," a monthly publication, consisting of original papers, chiefly political, and decorated with humorous caricature prints. The sale was very considerable; but some circumstances obliged Mr. Almon to abandon it, after he had finished the second volume. One of these circumstances was, inserting in one of the numbers *an eighteen days journal of Lord B.'s visits to Miss V. in Sackville-street, and to Carlton-house.* This gave

great offence, and although it was a paper upon which a prosecution could not be instituted, yet it was of such a nature as could not fail bringing on the publisher the most severe resentment on the first opportunity, however frivolous or trifling the ostensible cause might be. Another circumstance was of a nature still more private: it was the printing, in another number, a plan for augmenting the army in Ireland. This had been drawn up by a great personage: when it was published, he sent to Mr. Almon to know how he came by it. Mr. Almon declined, in the most respectful terms, giving any answer to the question. But he rightly foresaw that this refusal would inevitably draw on him * * * * * * *; and therefore, with a view of deprecating such consequences, he discontinued the publication.

In a little time afterwards this apprehension was verified, by the prosecution of Mr. Almon for *selling* a common magazine, in which was printed one of Junius's letters; a matter in which he had not the smallest concern. However, it answered the views of the court, for he was put under an interdiction, or, as it is called in the law phrase, obliged to give security for his good behaviour, for three years, in the sum of eight hundred pounds. Until that period had expired, but little was either written or published by him.

His principal work during this period was "The New Foundling Hospital for Wit; being a Collection of Fugitive Pieces, in Prose and Verse, not in any other Collection;" in which are many of his own, with

with his name to some of them. His poetical pieces are numerous, but not collected. The work itself has been several times reprinted; the last edition is in six volumes.

He afterwards made another collection, which he called "An Asylum." During this period he likewise compiled his "Collection of all the Treaties of Peace, Alliance, and Commerce, between Great Britain and other Powers, from the Revolution in 1688 to the present Time," in two volumes octavo. Another edition was printed in 1781, with a supplemental volume, comprehending public papers from 1495; some of greater and some of less value. The whole was again re-published in 1785, arranged in chronological order, and expanded with additional matter. Mr. Almon corresponded with Mr. Wilkes during the whole time of that gentleman's exile. Mr. Wilkes assisted him considerably in his Political Register, and his correspondence was extensive, particularly with persons of distinction.

At the meeting of the new parliament, in 1774, he commenced a work of more importance; this was "The Parliamentary Register;" being a regular and full account, *de die in diem*, of the debates and all the proceedings of both houses, published in monthly numbers, and sometimes oftener. This was the first production of the kind ever attempted. Hitherto the debates in parliament, very imperfectly given, and under Greek and Roman names, had been printed occasionally in some of the magazines. The work was very generally approved of, and several of the

lords and members of the house of commons gave him considerable assistance.

In the year 1775 the war with America commenced. This event furnished Mr. Almon with another monthly publication, which he called "The Remembrancer." The design will be best explained by his own words: "The late interesting advices from America suggested the utility of a periodical collection of the best accounts of every important public transaction. Several events are expected during the summer, which probably will be the subject of discussion next winter. Many of these accounts being published in the newspapers, are frequently mislaid after the day of publication, and when afterwards wanted, are sometimes very difficult to recover: besides, being mixed with the common occurrences of the day, and published in the large folio size, render that mode of preservation awkward, disagreeable, and almost impossible." The obvious utility of the design gained to the work the esteem of all parties, and of nobody more than Mr. Edmund Burke, who recommended it with ardour and sincerity. Several persons both in England and America contributed very largely; it was continued to the end of the war, and is now become very scarce.

He revised, corrected, and made considerable additions to his own volumes of parliamentary debates, from 1742 to 1774, where the Parliamentary Register begins. It may be worth while to notice that Drake's Parliamentary History begins with the Conquest and ends with the Restoration of Charles II. Chandler's collection of debates begins at the Restoration, and ends

ends in 1742. Almon's begins where Chandler's ends; so that there is a regular series of parliamentary history, by Drake, Chandler, and Almon, from the Conquest to the year 1780. Since which time the Parliamentary Register has been carried on by other hands.

In 1772 he made a collection of the "Protests of the House of Lords;" and a short time after wrote his "Letter to the Earl of Bute," proving the continuation of that nobleman's political influence. Next appeared a tract, called "Free Parliaments; or, a Vindication of the Parliamentary Constitution of England, in answer to certain visionary Plans of modern Reformers."

In the Spring of the year 1760 the Rev. John Home produced his tragedy, called "The Siege of Aquilea," which was no other than the siege of Berwick, by the English King Edward III. disguised under Roman names. Mr. Almon attacked this imposition with peculiar severity, in a pamphlet which he entitled "A Parallel between the Siege of Berwick and the Siege of Aquilea;" which contributed not a little to the ill success of the play, by stating the analogy, and developing the intention of the author.

In May 1778 the Earl of Chatham died. As no writer of the time knew more of his Lordship than Mr. Almon, so no person was more proper to become his biographer; and in this work he has assuredly obtained great credit to himself: it is entitled "Anecdotes of the Life of the Right Hon. William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, and of the principal Events of his Time; with his Speeches in Parliament from the Year 1736

to 1778." The first edition was in two volumes quarto; the second in four volumes octavo; the third, the fourth, the fifth, and sixth editions, have been in three volumes octavo. When the quarto edition was published, he sent a copy of it to the late Countess Dowager of Chatham, with the following letter:

"MADAM, *Box Moor, Herts.*

"I beg your Ladyship's pardon for trespassing upon your retirement. It is to solicit, Madam, the honour of your acceptance of these volumes. Although they contain but a weak, yet it is a well intended effort to do justice to a great and splendid character.

"From your Ladyship's noble brother, the late Earl Temple, I received the most interesting part of these anecdotes; his Lordship honoured me with his friendship and esteem many years. From the first Lord Lyttelton, the late Lords Fortescue and Carysfort, the Right Hon. W. G. Hamilton, the Right Hon. R. Rigby, Governor Pownal, Mr. Calcraft, Mr. Rous, and a number of other noblemen and gentlemen, I received the remainder.

"After much labour and expence, I now presume to lay the work before your Ladyship, humbly hoping that it will be honoured with your approbation, and that I may have your Ladyship's permission to subscribe myself,

"Madam,

"Your most obedient, and most humble servant,

J. ALMON."

LADY CHATHAM'S ANSWER.

"SIR, *Burton Pynsent.*

"I have received the obliging present of the books which you sent to me, the subject of which is so interesting to my feelings. I cannot delay desiring you to accept of my sincere thanks for this mark of your attention. The sentiments expressed by you of the abilities and virtues of my late dear Lord, are a sort of assurance to me, that I shall find his character and conduct painted in those colours that suit the dignity and wisdom that belong to them; the retracing of which will certainly afford me the highest satisfaction, mixed with the deepest regret, that myself, his country, family, and friends, have suffered by his death.

"I remain, Sir, your obliged and most humble servant,

"HESTER CHATHAM."

In the month of September 1779 died his friend Earl Temple, by a fall from his phaeton, at Stowe. This melancholy event determined the career of our author. The sudden loss of his patron extinguished his

his hopes and his ambition. He thought little more of politics or of parties, simply only of times past, nothing of the future.

Upon the change of ministry, in the year 1782, he, however, wrote a tract of much celebrity, entitled "A Letter to the Right Hon. Charles Jenkinson," which went through six editions. This was soon after followed by another, entitled "A Letter to the Interior Cabinet," which went through three editions. Both these tracts were on the subject of what Mr. Burke called *A Double Cabinet*, of which Mr. Jenkinson was supposed to be the principal member. He also wrote some other pamphlets about this time, the names of which the writer does not know.

His last work, which was printed in three volumes octavo, was entitled "Biographical, Literary, and Political Anecdotes of several of the most eminent Persons of the present Age; never before printed." The persons were,

The Duke of Grafton
Leeds
Rutland
Dorset
Earl of Marchmont
Orford
Temple
Mansfield
Camden
Lord Sackville
Bishop of Hereford (Dr. Butler)
Ossory (Dr. O'Beirne)
Right Hon. George Grenville
Charles Townshend.
Sir John Dalrymple
Sir James Caldwell
Sir Grey Cooper
Serjeant Adair
Dr. Franklin
David Hartley
Josiah Wedgwood
Thomas Wheately
William Knox
All the Burkes
Curious History of the Irish Octennial Bill &c.

When he had finished this work, he retired to his house in Hertfordshire, where he still resides. In the account given of the Duke of Grafton in these volumes,

lumes, there was occasion to mention the Letters of Junius, because that writer had incorrectly stated some matters respecting his Grace. Mr. Almon, in exposing these inaccuracies, described the writer of Junius's Letters. Upon which a relation of the Mr. Woodfall who originally printed the Letters of Junius, conceiving the consequence of his family abridged, by any body pretending to know who Junius was, came forward and asserted in the public newspapers that Mr. Almon's information was not true. In reply, Mr. Almon re-affirmed his assertion, and produced his proofs. After a short disputation, the clear fact came out, that Mr. Woodfall never knew any thing about Junius, and therefore Mr. Almon's account remains uncontradicted to this day. The whole of this affair, with Mr. Almon's letters, may be seen in the Life of Hugh Boyd, written by Captain Lawrence Dundas Campbell, prefixed to Boyd's Works, in two volumes octavo, printed for Cadell, in the Strand.

Mr. Almon has resided for some time past in Hertfordshire, where he possesses some property; but he occasionally visits town, and is well calculated, from the excellence of his memory, and the variety of his knowledge, to afford ample information, either by his conversation or his writings, relative to the early part of the present reign.

LIEUT. GEN. JOHN GRAVES SIMCOE.

THE utility of depicting the characters of those who have deserved well of their country is universally allowed, and on that account such works are sought for

for with eagerness, and perused with avidity. Advantageous in every respect as such portraits may be, yet, because some have been exhibited with an infidelity of likeness, it has been an opinion that to hold out living characters to public view is highly improper. We think otherwise; and happy are we to say, from the encouragement given to the five first volumes of this work, that the public, with the exception of a few splenetic critics, is entirely on our side. The good and great will always find a niche in our Temple of Living Worth, while the insignificant and undeserving are consigned to merited oblivion. It is accordingly with much satisfaction that we are enabled to give a place in the following pages to a man whose actions will best bespeak his worth.

Lieutenant-general Simcoe is a native of Devonshire, in which county he possesses an estate and beautiful demesne, called Walford Lodge, in the neighbourhood of Exeter, where he was born about the year 1750. Being addicted from his early youth to military affairs, he entered the army as an ensign the 27th of April, 1770, in the thirty-fifth regiment, then quartered in the above city. Instead of losing his time in trifling or despicable avocations, Mr. Simcoe, in consequence of great attention to his duty, was rewarded with the appointment of adjutant to the regiment in less than two years, his commission bearing date the 27th of March, 1772, and he succeeded to a lieutenancy March 12, 1774. This is an useful lesson for the younger part of the British army, who are too apt to fancy that the only requisites to form

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an officer are, to dress well, drink hard, and take their tour of duty from the roster.

Among the troops ordered to America, in 1775, was the thirty-fifth regiment, and as Lieutenant Simcoe, from his professional knowledge, was justly deserving of notice, he was accordingly promoted to a company in the fortieth, one of the corps which distinguished itself in that unfortunate contest.

In the course of the war many provincial battalions were raised in America, one of which was given to Captain Simcoe, and, in compliment to her Majesty, called the *Queen's Rangers*; of this he was appointed major commandant. At the head of this *corps*, which was actively employed under the most enterprizing officers, such as Lord Cornwallis, Lord Rawdon, (now Earl Moira) Colonel Tarleton, Brigadier-general Arnold, &c. he exhibited many proofs of his professional talents. In consequence of this, on the 23d of June, 1779, General Sir Henry Clinton, the commander in chief, gave him the local rank of lieutenant-colonel, which was afterwards established in the army. At the peace of 1783, the useful and brave corps, which had so eminently distinguished itself under his orders, was disbanded, but the officers were put on the half-pay list, and had rank in the army.

On Lieutenant-colonel Simcoe's return to England, he retired to enjoy in tranquillity a respite from his labours; but the services he had performed not being unknown to his Majesty, he was appointed lieutenant-colonel commandant to a corps to be raised in America,

rica, and to serve in Canada, to which he gave the name of the Queen's Rangers. On the 18th of November, 1790, he obtained the rank of colonel in the army.

By an act of parliament, which passed in the session of 1791, the province of Quebec was divided into Upper and Lower Canada, and each of these was placed under the superintendance of lieutenant-governors, subject to the authority of the Governor-general of British America.

The divisional line between Upper and Lower Canada commences at a stone boundary on the north bank of Lake St. Francis, in the river St. Lawrence, in the cove west of Point au Boudet, thence northerly to Outtawas river, and to its source in Lake Tomiscaning, thence due north till it strikes the boundary of Hudson's Bay. The extent of Upper Canada is immense, and it may almost be said to be unknown. The western boundary comprises all the countries extending to the great South Sea, and to the northward of the Polar Ocean. The population, however, is only estimated at thirty thousand inhabitants, while that of the Lower amounts to one hundred and forty thousand souls. As we mean to confine ourselves on this occasion to an account of Upper Canada only, we will, previous to mentioning Colonel Simcoe's appointment to the government of it, take notice of a few particulars respecting its internal policy and resources, which may not prove uninteresting to our readers, and for many of which we are indebted to a very ingenious and entertaining writer.*

* Travels in North America, by the Duc de la Rochefoucault Liancourt.

The

The province of Upper Canada is divided into four districts viz. Detroit, Niagara, Kingston, and St. John's. These are subdivided into twelve counties, over which is a lieutenant appointed by the governor. The inhabitants in each county, from the age of fifteen to fifty, are enrolled as militia-men, under a first and second lieutenant; they are also divided into companies and regiments, with superior officers. They assemble once a year, but the officers must inspect them twice during that period. Quakers, Baptists, and Dunkers, are exempted by paying a fine of twenty shillings in time of peace, and five pounds during war, and both officers and men are subject to heavy penalties for non-attendance when embodied. Out of the money accruing from both these sources, an adjutant-general of militia receives pay, and the remainder is at the disposal of the governor. The number of militia is estimated at near one-third of the population. By an act of the legislature, passed in 1793, the militia is obliged to serve beyond the limits of the province, if necessary, either as cavalry or infantry, and even on board of ship. However, this is not to extend to more than six months successively.

The governor has under him a legislative council and an house of assembly. The former must consist of not less than seven members; certain titles are connected with a right to a seat in the house, which is hereditary. The other is elected every seven years, and must be composed of sixteen members at least; once a year the whole must be called together. The chief justice of the province acts as speaker of the council,

council, and one of the lower house is elected for the same purpose in that branch of the legislature. The governor, who is president of the executive council, has the power of dissolving it if he pleases, but his assent or dissent is determined by a majority of votes. The expences of the civil and military administration of the province are defrayed by the mother country. That of Upper Canada including the Indian department may be fixed at one hundred thousand pounds *per annum*.

The taxes are few in number, consisting chiefly of a small duty on Madeira and other wines, together with a tavern licence of about three pounds sterling. The sum total of the revenue amounts to about one thousand pounds, out of which the speaker and officers of the lower house are paid. The remainder is set apart for local objects. In the counties a capitation, or poll-tax, not exceeding four dollars, as determined by the justices at the quarter sessions, is raised by assessment, for the construction of public buildings, the repair of roads, &c. The members of the assembly receive two dollars *per diem* while sitting, including the days they are on their journey. The money for this purpose is raised on the same plan as the last mentioned.

The high court for the trial of civil and criminal causes, consists of three justices, including the chief justice of the province. It is held four times a year. The judges make an annual circuit through the different provinces. There is also a court of appeal, composed of the governor and two members of the

the executive council. His excellency, with an assistant of his own chusing, holds a court of chancery. The province has an attorney-general.

We have been thus minute in giving this account of Upper Canada, for the government of which his Majesty selected Colonel Simcoe; a measure which proved of the utmost consequence to the settlement, and it is probable if he had not been thwarted by the governor general, his wise plans would have been still more advantageous for the colony. Neither ambition nor riches actuated his mind in the acceptance of the appointment, but from what we have learned, an inherent principle to make his life useful to his King and country, and happy are we to record that such generous wishes have been attended with success.

On his arrival with his family in Upper Canada, Colonel Simcoe had the country accurately surveyed, and then formed his plans for peopling and improving it*. He at first thought of placing the centre of his settlements within a square formed by the Lakes Ontario, Erie, Huron, and Detroit river; but as Niagara was to be given up to the Americans, he altered his plan. York, situated on the north-west side of Lake Ontario, had been before determined on for the capital, but Governor Simcoe not approving of that plan, intended to fix it on the banks of a river between Lakes Huron and Ontario. This was also dropt from various causes, the account of which is

* What follows respecting Upper Canada is nearly taken from his own conversation at different times, and we have reason to know that it is accurate.

inadmissible

inadmissible here; and York is now the seat of government.

To encrease the population was the great and favourite scheme of the new governor, and as he had the allotment of lands vested in him, he was thereby enabled to promote this desirable and useful measure. The families of American officers and soldiers who adhered to the royal cause at the conclusion of the war obtained grants on the British side of the boundary line,* as well as many officers and soldiers of regiments of the regular forces; since that period, emigrants from the mother country and the American states have also been encouraged to settle there. The policy of Governor Simcoe was to draw as many of the latter as he could, and by means of his mild and

* In consequence of some mistake in fixing the boundaries between the British colonies and the American states, we lost possession of all the great towns and forts in the back part of Canada, *viz.* Oswegatchie, Carletan island, Oswego, Niagara and its dependencies, Detroit (the Montpellier of this country), Michilimakinac, &c. all these are on the American side of the line, and only one wretched picketted fort in ruins (Fort Erie) on ours. The Quebec merchants then in England waited on a noble Lord at that time in office, and pointed out to him from the map the situation of the posts, the ruin that would ensue to the fur-trade, the enormous expence of building towns and forts, and the impracticability of making roads over mountains, some of which were nearly inaccessible. His Lordship, instead of thanking them for their information, and profiting as he ought of their local knowledge, is said to have replied haughtily, in answer to the latter part, that "Hannibal made a passage over the Alps." To this these gentlemen, indignantly smiling, retorted, "Alas! my Lord, there are few Hannibals in these days." Englishmen, who visit Upper Canada, must view with regret the loss of these posts.

disinterested government, to promote a love for the national character of Englishmen in the American states. To another body of men he held out a share of these lands, we mean half-pay officers; and he thought it an excellent measure to grant discharges to soldiers serving in the regiments then in Canada, who had been a certain number of years in the country, and allot settlements to them. In the mean time, that the *corps* might not be incomplete, he proposed enlisting Americans, who would soon be attached to the service of his Britannic Majesty.

These military settlers he intended to occupy the lands on the frontiers towards the American States, and on the banks of the lakes. The inland parts he set apart for those who had emigrated; and in case of their not being zealously attached to the existing government, the military settlers, from their situation, could act with vigour against them, or in the event of a war with America, (which would be contrary to the interests of both nations) defend the frontiers. A militia formed of such settlers might, in these instances, prove nearly as useful as a regular corps.

In pursuance of these plans, Colonel Simcoe on all occasions gave encouragement and assistance to those who applied for lands, or who were already in possession of them. The consequence of which was, that in a short space of time he saw that his government was capable not only of supplying grain for home consumption, but also for exportation. Cattle of all kinds were also reared in abundance, although in former times flour was sent from England, and meat

and

and butter from Ireland, for the use of the troops, at an enormous expence. During the American war, it was calculated that one day's allowance of provisions, for which a soldier paid twopence-halfpenny, cost government, at Niagara and Detroit, including the original expence, the freight by sea to Quebec, the carriage to these places, and the damage which too often occurred during the transportation, little less than a dollar.* By Governor Simcoe's plan, great saving accrued to government by purchasing the grain and cattle on the spot, while the alteration in question proved highly beneficial to the settlement!

The lakes also, in his opinion, were capable of furnishing fish, particularly sturgeon, in such vast quantities, as to afford the means of carrying on a trade with Europe in competition with Russia, which supplies England and other countries to a great amount. He therefore strongly recommended this to the settlers. In short, the whole of his conduct during the time he enjoyed the government of Upper Canada, was honourable, liberal, and admirably calculated to lay the foundations of private and public prosperity. Justice was administered under his auspices according to the principles of the British constitution. The lieutenants of counties appointed by him had authority to nominate respectable men to be justices of the peace, and officers of militia, while over these he himself kept a watchful eye.

The following extract from a speech made by Governor Simcoe, upon proroguing the fifth session of

* Four shillings and eightpence army pay.

the provincial parliament of Upper Canada, will fully elucidate his character, as well as the policy he acted on.

"*Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and*

"*Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

"It is our immediate duty to recommend our public acts to our fellow-subjects, by the efficacy of our private example, and to contribute, in this tract of the British empire, to form a nation obedient to the laws, frugal, temperate, industrious; impressed with a stedfast love of justice, of honour, of public good; with unshaken probity and fortitude amongst men, with Christian piety and gratitude to God!

"Conscious of the intention of well-doing, I shall ever cherish, with reverence and humble acknowledgment, the remembrance that it is my singular happiness to have borne to this province the powers, the privileges, and the practice of the British constitution; this perpetual monument of the good-will of the empire, the reward of tried affections and loyalty, can best fulfil the just end of all government, as the experience of ages hath proved, by communicating universally protection and prosperity to those who make a rightful use of its advantages."

After remaining during five years in the settlement, during a very interesting period, Governor Simcoe returned to England, to the great regret of all the inhabitants, who will long cherish a grateful remembrance of his paternal care of their interests, as well as of his private virtues.

On the 3d of October, 1794, he was promoted to the rank of major-general, and a new field was soon opened for the exercise of his talents. The situation of the island of St. Domingo, which had been taken possession of by troops from Jamaica, in September 1793, requiring a person of talents and irreproachable life to take the command of it as civil governor

and

and commander in chief, in the room of that excellent officer the late General Sir Adam Williamson, his Majesty found none more deserving so important a station than Major-general Simcoe, who was appointed, with the local rank of lieutenant-general, the 3d of December, 1796.

The nomination of this officer was very acceptable to all ranks in the island, in which he arrived during February of the following year. The army required much trouble from him to enable it to act with vigour against the enemy, who had previous to his arrival formed the plan of driving the British, in succession, from their possessions of Mirebalais, Grand Bois, L'Arcahaye, St. Marc's, and Port-au-Prince; the two former had been unaccountably evacuated, prior to his taking on him the command. The French and their allies were in great force contiguous to all these posts, and although General Simcoe did not bring any reinforcements with him, and the few troops he possessed wanted reform, yet he determined to commence operations against the enemy, without waiting to be attacked. The good effects of this plan were instantly seen; Toussaint was beaten before St. Marc; Mirebalais was re-captured; the ports of St. Lawrent and Le Boutiliere were taken by storm, and Rigaud, a gallant Mulatto chief, was prevented from obtaining possession of Trois.

He also established many forts and blockhouses to defend Port-au-Prince, and encamped the troops near it. By these means the inhabitants were tranquillized,

ed, and the soldiers enjoyed better health than when cooped up in garrison. The greatest thing a general can do is to pay particular attention to preserving the health of his men; without that conquests may be planned, but never effected.

General Simcoe now turned his thoughts to the civil government of the colony, the expenditure of which was immense, and the revenues but trivial. The duties on import and export he found necessary to increase, and they were paid without a murmur by those immediately concerned. Several other regulations were made and enforced, the good effects of which were soon visible, but in the midst of this gleam of prosperity, the colony was deprived of its governor, who returned to Europe in the month of July of the same year, leaving an indelible impression on the minds of all ranks and colours, of his brave, judicious, and upright administration. Perhaps the consequent evils and final evacuation of this valuable island would not have occurred, had he been properly supported from the mother country; short, however, as his stay was, he did more than any former general in conciliating the native inhabitants to the British government.

On the 18th of July 1798, his Majesty, as a reward for his services, was pleased to confer on him the command of the twenty-second regiment of foot; shortly after his return to England, he was employed on the staff; and on the 3d of October 1798, he was made a lieutenant-general. During the time the immense

mense preparations were making in all the French ports, in 1801, for the avowed purpose of an invasion, the important command of the town of Plymouth, the county of Devon, &c. was entrusted to him, and from the uncommon exertions he made in disciplining the volunteer corps, and persuading every man who could bear arms to come forward, there is little doubt but the enemy, had they attempted to land in that part of the country, would have received a severe check.

In consequence of the treaty of Amiens the war establishment being laid aside, the name of General Simcoe ceased to appear on the staff list, but since hostilities have recommenced he is among the lieutenant-generals employed, and now commands the western or Plymouth district.

At a time like the present the services of an officer possessing the professional merit of the subject of this memoir, may be turned to much advantage, and his military knowledge, conciliatory manner, and unremitting attention, successfully applied in disciplining the *Army of Reserve* now voted by Parliament.

As a military man General Simcoe is often consulted by those high in office, and is a member of every board of general officers ordered by his Majesty. In fact few gentlemen in the service are more capable of deciding on professional affairs, whether respecting discipline, or interior œconomy. He is also highly esteemed by a numerous circle of friends of the first respectability, and his opinion and advice taken in

matters of the most interesting nature, for which he is eminently qualified by his knowledge of the world, and good sense. It ought not to be omitted, that he excels in classical learning, few officers in the army having had a better education.

EDWARD LORD ELLENBOROUGH,

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

IF a lawyer, who has risen to eminence by the force of personal merit, were to write a minute and copious account of his life, he would furnish a work very instructive to his profession, and interesting to the world in general. The number of those who seek in vain by the study of the law for fortune and reputation, shews what a nice combination of circumstances is necessary to their success. Great abilities, even when assisted by common advantages, do not always attract the attention of the public, and that attention is not always deserved by the exertions which obtain it: the jealousy of his rivals, and the natural distrust with which we commit the defence of important interests to powers, of which experience has not determined the extent, essentially oppose the advances of a young lawyer. One who has overcome these difficulties, and has nicely attended to the instruments of his success, would be able to enrich the science of human life with many important observations.

From these considerations, it was particularly the wish of the writer of the life of Lord Ellenborough to collect

collect materials relating to the earlier part of his public career; and those which he has obtained are perhaps calculated to gratify curiosity.

Lord Ellenborough is a native of the county of Cumberland, and was son of Dr. Edmund Law, the late Bishop of Carlisle. He was educated, until he arrived at the age of twelve years, by his uncle, the Rev. Humphry Christian, who resided at Bottsam, near Cambridge, and was then sent to the Charter-house; thence he removed, in 1768, to St. Peter's College, Cambridge, of which his father had been appointed master in 1756.

After he had taken his bachelor's degree with great *credit, he was admitted of Lincoln's-inn. He was not, however, called at the usual standing, preferring to practise during some time under the bar. Lawyers in this situation are not allowed to appear in the character of advocates: they assist in drawing up written pleadings, whence they are called special pleaders; but the fees they receive are less than those given to the special pleaders who have been admitted to the bar. The advantages attending this plan are, practice at an early period, and the opportunities afforded of forming useful connections with clients. Of the profits attending it, the reader will not form a very high idea, from the following anecdote: A late attorney-general, at a consultation, after discussing the point under consideration, in his usual high and decisive tone, concluded with saying. "And, gentle-

* Lord Ellenborough was third wrangler and senior medallist.

men,

men, this is *my* opinion." A solicitor present, who had the highest respect for the talents of the speaker, but was roused by the peremptoriness of his manner, observed, "It is *your* opinion—and I remember when I could have had that opinion for five shillings" (alluding to the time when he practised *under* the bar). To which the attorney-general good-humouredly returned, "And probably my opinion was not at that time worth five shillings."

After he had been called to the bar, Mr. Law went the northern circuit, most probably on account of the advantages which he expected to derive from the influence of his father, the Bishop of Carlisle. At this period, the principal causes were in the hands of Messrs. Wallace and Lee, men so distinguished, that the young lawyers could aspire to their practice only after they had declined it. Among the junior counsel were Lord Auckland, Lord Eldon, and Lord Alvanley. Lord Auckland soon abdicated the profession of the law for politics; Lord Alvanley was induced, by the prospect of greater advantage, to remove to the chancery bar; while Lord Eldon and Lord Ellenborough remained to divide between them the rich harvest of that field, which the advancement of their great predecessors soon left open to them.

Wallace was a native of Cumberland, and began the profession of the law as an attorney's clerk: his circumstances are indeed said to have been so low, that he could not have paid the sum which is now required from attornies before they can be enrolled.

Thus

Thus a regulation, one of whose objects is to exclude improper members from this department, would have deprived the profession of one of its greatest ornaments. His abilities gradually developed themselves. He had the happiness of feeling himself rising during the whole of his life, and of knowing that his success was the reward of that ability and perseverance with which he had contended against extraordinary difficulties. At Westminstsr he was constantly opposed to Dunning; and, although inferior to his great rival in genius and attainments, he maintained his ground by the extent and accuracy of his legal knowledge, and by the vigour and industry which he displayed on all occasions. When his constitution had been worn out by age and fatigues, he was advised by his physicians to seek benefit from the air of Devonshire. At an inn he met with Dunning, who, in a still more desperate state, was trying the same experiment for the restoration of his health; and these men, who had long acted together in the most busy and laborious scenes of life, again contemplated each other, at a moment when they expected a speedy termination to all their pursuits. The interview must have been melancholy and affecting: Dunning died shortly after it took place, and Wallace did not long survive him!

The last business in which Mr. Wallace was engaged was the prosecution of a great state criminal. This man was high in one of the public offices, and had been guilty of enormous peculation. It was, however,

however, generally rumoured and suspected that the law-officers under the influence of government were not anxious for the success of the prosecution, but would, if possible, discover means of rendering it ineffectual. Wallace, therefore, finding that his character was at stake, exerted himself to the utmost on this occasion, drew up the pleadings, revised them, copied them, and after having satisfied himself that there was no flaw, submitted them to the inspection of several of his learned friends. When they had expressed themselves convinced of their accuracy, he thought he might safely commit them to the court; but, after he had entertained this well-grounded opinion during some time, the late Sir John Wilson discovered in them a flaw, which, if it had been suffered to remain, would have quashed the whole proceeding. This was no other than having written 20,000*l.* instead of "twenty thousand pounds," the legal forms not allowing that sums should be expressed by figures. What must be the uncertainty of the law, if so experienced a practitioner could, with all his diligence, be exposed to such a failure!

Lee was a very extraordinary character. His abilities and legal knowledge were of the first order. His person was not prepossessing, but calculated to give effect to that boldness of manner which he thought essential to the success of his pleadings. He was of a very jovial temper, and a *methodical* "*bon vivant*." When he had amassed fifty thousand pounds, he determined to save no more, thinking that more would not

not be of service to his only child, a daughter. He therefore spent his whole income; and among other methods of expenditure, drank Champagne, like small beer, out of a pint mug. Many other eccentricities, which strongly marked his character, might be added to those already mentioned.

Lee was famous for studying *effect* when he pleaded. A curious instance may be related. On the circuit at Norwich, a brief was brought him by the relatives of a woman who had been deceived in a promise of marriage; Lee enquired, among other particulars, whether the woman was handsome? "A most beautiful face" was the answer. Satisfied with this, he desired that she should be placed at the bar, immediately in the front of the jury. When he rose, he began a most pathetic address, directing the attention of the jury to the charms which were placed in their view, and painting in glowing colours the guilt of the wretch who could injure so much beauty. When he perceived their feelings worked up to a proper pitch, he sat down, under the perfect conviction that he should obtain a verdict. What then must have been his surprize when the counsel retained by the opposite party rose and observed, that it was impossible not to assent to the encomiums which his learned friend had lavished on the face of the plaintiff; but he begged leave to add, that she had *a wooden leg*. This fact, of which Lee was by no means aware, was established to his utter confusion; his eloquence was thrown away, and the jury, who felt ashamed of the effects

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it had produced upon them, instantly gave a verdict against him.

The Bishop of Elphin married a sister of Wallace, and thus formed a connection very useful to his brother Lord Ellenborough. Wallace accordingly exerted himself to throw his business on the northern circuit into the hands of Mr. Law, when he retired from it; and whatever he once acquired, his abilities retained and improved.

Business in the country naturally leads to business in London; but Mr. Law was not without friends who assisted him on this more important theatre, among whom the earliest and most useful was the late Judge Buller. With Buller he had no connection before he went to the bar, and we are not able to mention the origin of their acquaintance; it might, perhaps, be produced by the following circumstance: Lord Ellenborough was a member of a club of lawyers, who dined at Rolle's coffee-house, and was composed of many eminent characters. Among these probably was Buller, who would thus have an opportunity of observing the abilities of the young lawyer, and of conceiving the design of assisting in bringing them forward to public notice. At the club each man had an office; such as that of candle-snuffer, bell-ringer, &c. and made a speech on being promoted to it. Lord Alvanley greatly distinguished himself by his oration when he was appointed bell-ringer. It has often been mentioned as the best ever made on a jovial occasion.

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In the late Chief Justice Willes Mr. Law found another patron. He was not a man of great powers, and probably derived from the abilities and industry of his friend, advantages equal to those which were imparted by the countenance he bestowed on him. Accordingly our young lawyer was sometimes employed in hunting cases for judges, if not in more important services.

By means of Buller he soon obtained a silk gown. To take a silk gown is thought a bold step in a young lawyer, as he that wears it must lead in every cause. The distinction, therefore, excludes him on all occasions when men of superior reputation are employed who are not king's counsel. He must lead or do nothing; if, therefore, he is not thought fit to lead, he does nothing, and is accordingly crushed under his honours. Mr. Law had no reason to entertain apprehensions of this kind; he must have been conscious that he did not want abilities, but merely opportunities to display them.

A singularly able and learned defence which he made in an insurance cause, when his practice was not yet very considerable, drew upon him universal attention, and ranked him among the first lawyers at the bar. The subject was one to which he had always paid particular attention, and in which he shone with the most distinguished superiority. The impression produced by his management of this business brought him immediately a vast succession of business at Guildhall, and may be considered, in a great degree, the foundation of his present greatness and fortune.

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His reputation was further extended by the active part he took in the defence of Governor Hastings. Into this trial he was introduced by Sir Thomas Rumbold, who married his sister. The cause had been offered to Mr. Erskine, who refused it on account of the many unpleasant circumstances under which it appeared likely to place him. This refusal was, however, judged *unprofessional*, and could have been ventured on only by a man of his established celebrity. That it originated from considerations such as have been mentioned, and not from any conviction unfavourable to the character of the client, is evident from his defence of Stockdale, who was prosecuted for a libel on the prosecutors of Hastings, as in the course of this defence he endeavoured to refute all the charges which were brought against the Governor-general of Bengal.

The reasons that weighed with Mr. Erskine weighed as strongly with Lord Ellenborough, but did not induce him to decline the cause. The most serious inconvenience arising to him from it was, that it hurt his business in Westminster Hall. A counsel was not likely to be retained whose presence at the trial could not be depended upon, and who might be called away at a minute's notice to attend the House. He had likewise a new set of men to contend with, Fox, Burke, Adams, and, worst of all, Sheridan, whose keen sarcastic wit could not be exercised on a more sensitive temper.* But the losses, fatigues, and vexa-

* He told a friend that he would at one time have given a thousand pounds to be rid of his employment.

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tions Mr. Law endured from this engagement, were no doubt amply compensated by the addition it made to his reputation. His abilities became still more widely known, and he was accordingly ranked by the opinion of the public, as well as by the judgments of discerning men, among the first of his profession.

The way, however, was not completely smooth before him. By a succession of unfortunate circumstances he made an enemy in Lord Kenyon, who took every opportunity to thwart and distress him. This conduct on the part of Lord Kenyon once drew from Lord Ellenborough a very happy quotation. Mr. Erskine, who was engaged on the opposite side, had made a very violent speech, containing some personalities of such a nature that he felt compelled to notice them. When he got up to reply he repeated the following lines from Virgil :

> Dicta ferox non me tua fervida terrent
> Dii me terrent & *Jupiter* Hostis.
>
> Æneid, b. xii. l. 894.

Partiality in the court of King's-bench cannot much depress a lawyer who opposes to it a great force of abilities and reputation. The difficulties against which Lord Ellenborough had to struggle, were much less than those which Lord Alvanley met with in the court of Chancery. He by an ill fortune, similar to that which attended Lord Ellenborough, drew upon himself the dislike of a great lawyer with more fatal consequences. The Lord Chancellor in his court is both judge and jury, and if it be ever perceiv-

ed that he regards a counsel with an unfavourable eye, the circumstance operates to his ruin. No briefs are carried to one whose defence acts against the cause. Mr. Pitt's insisting that Lord Alvanley should be made master of the Rolls was therefore the severest mortification Lord Thurlow ever endured. He threatened to resign, but Mr. Pitt still remained unmoved. How little ought to have been regarded the objection that Lord Alvanley was unfit to execute the duties of the master of the Rolls, is evident from an assertion which the writer of this article knows to have been made by a master in Chancery, that there were fewer appeals from his decisions, than from those of any other master of the Rolls that had ever been remembered.

On the northern circuit, during the latter part of the time when he attended it, Mr. Law was without a rival. It happened that of the remaining counsel, those who enjoyed reputation were without great abilities, while these who possessed great abilities were destitute of reputation. The observation is, however, meant to extend only to those who were accustomed to lead; for in point of legal knowledge, Judge Chambre, Mr. Wood, and some others, who were on the same circuit, acknowledge few superiors. It ought likewise to be added, that Serjeant Cockell, who was uniformly opposed to Mr. Law, practised a manner of pleading adapted to work a powerful effect on that class of men from which country juries are composed. His arguments, suited to the size of their capacities, and the nature of their prejudices, the violence of his tone and gesture, calculated to move

move their rude and heavy understandings, often effaced the impressions produced by the grave and dignified addresses of the subject of these memoirs, which were listened to with more reverence, but little conviction.

In Westminster-hall his superiority was not so evident. Mr. Erskine, as a leading counsel, possessed a more extensive, though perhaps a less solid reputation. In speaking of these great men, the expression may justly be used which Quinctilian applies to Livy and Sallust, that they are,

"Pares magis quam similes,"

equal to each other, rather than like each other. If Mr. Erskine be a finer speaker, his rival is a more accomplished lawyer. If Mr. Erskine captivates the imagination by the brilliancy of his ideas, and the elegance of his language, Lord Ellenborough subjects the understanding by the strength of his expressions, and by a weight of sentiment and matter, which always produces an effect proportionate to the capacities of his hearers. That egotism which perplexes the pleadings of the former, by studying to divide the attention between himself and the cause, was never perceived in the latter. He appeared to regard nothing but his cause, and either to be indifferent to admiration, or to seek it only by deserving it.

If they be compared as lawyers, the superiority must, without hesitation, be allowed to Lord Ellenborough. An important part of Mr. Erskine's life was lost to his profession, and the splendour of his oratorical powers advanced him into public notice soon after he had de-

voted himself to it. The great practice which immediately followed the first manifestation of his talents, though it naturally increased his knowledge, took from him the opportunity of making those laborious investigations which are necessary to complete the character of a profound lawyer. Lord Ellenborough, on the contrary, has enjoyed every advantage of opportunity and training, and has, during the whole of his life, displayed an industry no less uncommon than the abilities by which it was directed.

Mr. Law's advancement to the great offices of the profession did not take place until long after he had been designed for them by the expectations of the public. These expectations were founded equally on his eminent talents, and on the soundness and extent of his legal knowledge. That they were so long defeated, is attributed to his having been regarded with unfavourable sentiments by the late administration. Immediately after its dissolution he was appointed attorney-general, and brought into the house of commons, where he was a frequent speaker in defence of ministerial measures. In this character it will be allowed that he performed important services, even by those whose opinions of the conduct and abilities of the present ministers lead them to conclude that they want both defence and defenders.

At the bar and in the house of commons Lord Ellenborough was the same man. He transferred from the questions of law to those of politics the copiousness of matter, as well as the energy of thought and language, by which he had always been distinguished.

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He likewise not unfrequently displayed in the course of debate, that irritability and warmth of temper which characterized him as a pleader. Unlike Mr. Erskine, who, while he reigns at the bar, maintains but a secondary character in the house of commons, Mr. Law always stood forward in the first rank, and never appeared inferior to the great reputation he had acquired. This difference cannot be resolved into that species of eloquence which Mr. Erskine has cultivated. In his speaking there is nothing of that which is peculiar to the bar. His subtilty, his wit, that rich colouring of sentiment and diction, which distinguishes his pleadings from all others, might be applied with equal felicity to every subject of discussion.

Concerning the character of Lord Ellenborough's eloquence, it may be observed in general, that he appears to aim more at strength than at elegance. There is nothing, however, in the occasional roughness and negligence of his sentences which does not consist with delicacy of taste and refinement of knowledge. To him may be applied what Cicero observes of the great Roman orator Antonius,

"Verba ipsa non illa quidem elegantissimo sermone; itaque diligenter loquendi laude caruit, neque tamen est admodum inquinatè locatus."

"His words were not selected according to the most elegant models of style; he therefore could not claim the honour of speaking eloquently; yet his language was not disagreeably coarse."

His faults seem to belong to a mind too highly occupied to avoid them; and, perhaps, if he had been

more studied and graceful, his hearers would be less at leisure to receive the full force of those masculine ideas which constitute the distinguishing virtues of his speeches. The poignancy of his invectives has seldom been equalled, and it established a salutary dread among his brethren at the bar, which has since been extended to the members of the two houses, with whom he has had occasion to contend. The gravity and solemnity of his manner was best suited to important causes, but he shewed himself able to treat light matters with gaiety and wit; while at the same time it appeared more natural to him to be dignified than trifling.

The office of attorney-general is always understood to be a step to higher situations; and Mr. Law, on the death of Lord Kenyon, was appointed, in April 1802, chief justice of the court of King's-bench, and elevated to a peerage. So rapid a rise, within a year, from the condition of a King's counsel to the second dignity of the law, cannot be paralleled by any other instance in the annals of the profession. The situation of the chief justice of the King's-bench, although in respect to rank and salary is the second among the dignities of the law, is in some points thought more desirable than the first. The Lord Chancellor, as a member of the ministry, is subject to the varieties of its fortune; while the judges cannot be removed from their offices, except in consequence of misbehaviour, or addresses from either of the two houses of parliament. It is likewise understood that the extensiveness of the Lord Chancellor's patronage is scarcely adequate

adequate to the value of the few lucrative situations of which the chief justice of the King's-bench has the absolute disposal.

Lord Ellenborough has therefore attained what probably was the highest object of his ambition. The elevated station on which he is placed affords him all the enjoyments of dignity, and all the opportunities he can desire for the display and exertion of his powers. His two immediate predecessors were men with whom the greatest minds might be proud to rival. Lord Mansfield will always be considered not only among the first ornaments of his profession, but among those who have done honour to his country and to human nature; and Lord Kenyon's occasional violence and neglect of decorum, his deficiencies as an orator and a scholar, will not deprive him of that reverence which is due to the vigour of understanding, the extent of his professional acquirements, and the uniform ardour with which he supported the cause of religion and morality.

It is impossible to contemplate the life of this nobleman, without reflecting on the splendid prospects which animate the study of the law. By the mere exertion of his talents, without the interference of any extraordinary events, Lord Ellenborough has accumulated a great fortune, attained one of the most exalted stations in the empire, and acquired for himself, and will transmit to his children, the honours of the British peerage.

THE MARQUIS OF BUCKINGHAM, AND THE GRENVILLES.

THE philosophers of a former century for a long time occupied the attention of the public, respecting the doctrine of *innate ideas*. Notwithstanding it seemed to be the more orthodox opinion, that knowledge was not intuitive, but acquired, yet there appears to be an hereditary pre-disposition, both in nations and individuals, to transmit talents and abilities; and the character of those we are now about to treat of, furnishes an apposite proof of the fact.

There are only two branches of this family now living. The first is, the issue of the late Right Hon. George Grenville (the eldest brother of the late Earl Temple), who was minister of this country in the years 1763, 1764, and 1765, and who died in the month of November 1770; the other is, the issue of the Right Hon. James Grenville, second brother of the same nobleman. The descendants of George Grenville, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Windham, Bart. by his lady Catherine, daughter of Charles Duke of Somerset, are: George Grenville Nugent Temple, the present Marquis of Buckingham, who was born on the 17th day of June, 1753; was married on the 12th day of April, 1775, to Lady Mary-Elizabeth Nugent, daughter and heiress to the late Earl Nugent, by whom he has two sons, Richard Earl Temple, representative in parliament for the county of Buckingham, and Lord George Nugent Grenville, a young nobleman of great promise, and

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also a daughter, Lady Mary, who possesses many amiable and elegant endowments.

In the month of April 1763, the present Marquis (then Mr. Grenville) was appointed teller of the exchequer, in the room of Lord Waldegrave. When he had finished his education he made the tour of Europe, accompanied by Lord Bulkeley, and at the general election in 1774 was nominated representative in parliament for the county of Buckingham. In the month of September 1779, his uncle, the late Earl Temple, died; upon which Mr. Grenville, who was his Lordship's eldest nephew, as well as heir, succeeded to his titles and estates, and on the 30th day of March 1782 he was nominated lord lieutenant and custos rotulorum for the county of Bucks, in the room of Lord Chesterfield.

During the month of July, in the same year, his Lordship was appointed lord lieutenant of Ireland, in the place of the Duke of Portland, who resigned upon the change of the ministry at that time. By the constitution of Ireland, at the period we allude to, the parliament met only every second year, and this being one of the vacant years, afforded no opportunity for the display of his Lordship's parliamentary talents; but other occasions occurred for shewing his assiduous attention to the affairs and interests of Ireland, which distinguished his judgment, his philanthropy, his patriotism, and his penetration with respect to public affairs.

He corrected the abuses in the barrack-board, reformed the offices in the court of chancery, and for the

the future directed that all the monies should be lodged in the national bank, of which he was a great promoter. In several other departments of government, amendment followed inquisition. His Excellency transmitted regular accounts of these proceedings to the cabinet at St. James's, together with lists of other abuses, as well as of sinecure places, which he had not sufficient power to correct, and therefore he was very solicitous that a session of parliament should be held for the public service. These representations, however, did not meet with that attention they seem to have deserved.

During his Lordship's administration the new order of knighthood was instituted, the members of which were stiled Knights of St. Patrick. They were fifteen in number, and his Lordship had the sole nomination of them. The 11th day of March 1783 was the day appointed for the ceremonial of the investiture, in the great ball-room, which by the King's order was hereafter to be styled the Hall of St. Patrick.

Immediately after the arrival of the new lord lieutenant, which was on the 15th of September 1782, the poor distressed Genevans implored his assistance and protection, in a memorial dated September 27, to take refuge in Ireland, from the tyranny and oppression of their own government. His Excellency recommended their claims, in the strongest and warmest terms, to his Sovereign. In the dispatch his Lordship says, " In consequence of certain alterations in the political constitution and government of the state of Geneva, a considerable number of citizens and inhabitants,

bitants, attached to the blessings of a free government, were disposed, under assurances of the enjoyment of certain privileges and protection, to settle themselves in this kingdom, to bring with them their property, and establish here those manufactures which had rendered the citizens of that state so wealthy." The King having approved of this recommendation and design, the agents of the Genevese obtained the permission they wanted, and fixed upon a tract of land, in the county of Waterford, to settle upon. As soon as this determination was known, the gentlemen volunteers of the Waterford union came to the following resolutions, on the 17th day of March 1783:

"*Resolved*, That a people seeking refuge and protection in a free country, from the unjust and tyrannical attempts of a nation long famous for their boundless desire of enslaving mankind, deserve every encouragement and support from the sons of freedom.

"*Resolved*, That we behold with the highest admiration the conduct of the Genevese, in relinquishing their native soil, when ruled by the iron hand of oppression, and preferring freedom in a foreign land to domestic slavery; and we most heartily wish that this noble example may serve to evince to the supporters of civil tyranny the futility of attempting to enslave the minds of freemen, in whose breasts the flame of liberty glows superior to every other interested consideration. Happy to see this nation become the protectress of distressed freedom, we shall receive the Genevese with open arms, and give them every assistance and support as fellow-subjects and fellow-citizens."

ANSWER.

"*To the Gentlemen Volunteers.*

"GENTLEMEN,

"Next to the approbation of their own consciences, nothing can yield greater satisfaction to the Genevans, who have in vain struggled to preserve the independence, the liberty, and the laws

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of their country, than the marks of concern and esteem which they receive from the volunteers of Ireland. You may be assured that they ardently wish to join their fate to that of a nation so respectable as yours, and that they long for the moment when it will be in their power to express those feelings with which your generous proceedings in their behalf have inspired, and to shew you that they are not unworthy of them.

" G. RINGLER.
" E. CLAVIERE.
" AMI MELLY.
" E. GASC."

The freemen and inhabitants of Londonderry, of Leinster, and other places, complimented the Genevese in similar terms, and received similar answers.

Among the numerous acts of munificence performed by the lord lieutenant, that to the weavers deserves to be particularly noticed. In the month of March 1783 a deputation from these manufacturers waited upon his Excellency, with a petition from the general body, setting forth their distresses. He received them with great politeness, and ordered one hundred pounds towards beginning a subscription for their relief. By his ability and influence also, he prevailed upon the merchants to give the preference to the Dublin looms, whenever they came in competition with foreign fabrics, whether in silk, woollen, or thread.

A revolution in the British cabinet was foreseen early in the month of March 1783. As soon as the new ministry were appointed, which was commonly called the *Coalition Ministry*, because Mr. Fox and Lord North had *united*, Earl Temple sent over his resignation, but added that he would stay until his successor arrived. The moment this was known, all

Ireland

Ireland took the alarm. They admired, they revered, they adored him. The Dublin volunteers, commanded by the Duke of Leinster, went in a body, with the Duke at their head, to the castle, with an address to his Excellency, requesting his continuance as chief governor. They were received in the most polite manner, as was also the corporation, which evinced its regard by means of the following declaration :

" The humble address of the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, Commons, and Citizens of the city of Dublin, in Common-council assembled, presented, on the 11th day of March 1783, to the Lord-lieutenant.

" *May it please your Excellency,*

" We, the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, Commons, and Citizens of the city of Dublin, in Common-council assembled, unanimously think it our indispensable duty at this time to approach your Excellency, with our sincere acknowledgments for your prudent and indefatigable regard to the honour and welfare of this country.

" Your Excellency's early attention to the removal of all doubts relative to the independence of the legislation and jurisdiction of the parliament of Ireland, the general and œconomical reform introduced into several departments of the state, and the many great and apparent advantages we enjoy, and are likely to experience, from your Excellency's wise, firm, and virtuous administration, must at all times excite and demand the highest expressions of gratitude, and make us earnestly solicitous for the continuance of your government over a people affectionate to your person, and truly sensible of your honourable intentions.

" It has been justly observed, that all nations have experienced a period of exaltation, as well as of depression. From an ill-judging policy, this kingdom felt the latter; from the well-timed and liberal sentiments which prevail, it is likely to obtain the former.

" We assure your Excellency, that the citizens expect the consummation of this great business from a nobleman of independent fortune and principles, equally the friend of Great Britain and Ireland, and sensible their interests are the same; and they most firmly rely on your goodness, that nothing in your power will be

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wanting to secure to this nation the complete and perpetual enjoyment of constitutional and commercial freedom. In that persuasion we cannot but represent to your Excellency, that as the time is critical and important, no circumstances whatsoever should induce a change which might prejudice, but cannot benefit, this country; and your Excellency must be convinced there are situations in which the yielding, even to the finer feelings of the mind (however amiable in private life), must be considered as political error, and a desertion of public duty.

"Your Excellency will please to receive this address, not as the ordinary and common compliment paid to persons in your high station, but as the language of freemen sensibly alarmed, who highly approve of your conduct, and revere your virtues, and who will not behold with indifference the moment which shall terminate your Excellency's administration.

"In testimony whereof we have caused the common seal of the said city to be hereunto affixed, this 7th day of March, 1783."

This being presented to his Excellency the Lord-lieutenant, he was pleased to give the following answer:

"I am too sensible to this address of affectionate regard, to answer it in the common expressions of good-will: my heart is indeed too full; I truly feel an honest pride in receiving such a testimony of the sense which the city of Dublin entertain of my zeal to promote that first object of my wishes, the constitutional and commercial freedom of Ireland.

"To such an object I would gladly sacrifice every private feeling; and as long as I can flatter myself that my exertions are acceptable to his Majesty, or may be serviceable to this kingdom, I will hope that no circumstances will prevent me from continuing to you that proof of my interest in your prosperity, which an unremitting attention to the great lines of an honest government can so truly give. But in every situation, I never can forget how much I owe to your affection; and my constant prayer, my constant object, will be, that the honour, pride, and happiness of Ireland may be perpetual, and that it may be founded on the surest basis of a liberal and constitutional connexion with your sister kingdom."

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This was followed by addresses from all parts of Ireland. Such a stream of compliment never before flowed in upon any lord lieutenant. We shall transcribe two or three of them, from official copies, which have not been printed in England.

On Saturday the 22d March, 1783, the following address from the county of Galway was presented to his Excellency Earl Temple.

"*To his Excellency George Nugent Grenville, Earl Temple, Lord Lieutenant General, and General Governor of Ireland.*

The humble address of the Gentlemen, Clergy, Freeholders, and Inhabitants of the county of Galway, at Loughria assembled.

"We, the Gentlemen, Clergy, Freeholders, and Inhabitants of the county of Galway, at Loughria assembled, in consequence of a public advertisement for the purpose, think ourselves bound to omit no opportunity of testifying our gratitude for your Excellency's attention and regard to every thing which tended to the honour, interest, and happiness of this county.

"We already took another opportunity of testifying our gratitude for the firm, manly, and decided conduct which distinguished your government, and which has been more particularly manifested by the attention paid by your Excellency to the removal of all doubts relative to the independence of the legislation and jurisdiction of the parliament of Ireland.

"We hence beheld with respect and veneration your regard to an œconomical reform of public expences, which has not had its existence in words only, but in actions. While we contemplate this, and the many advantages we are likely to enjoy from a Government thus wisely, firmly, and virtuously administered, it is impossible not to feel and confess the warmest gratitude, the greatest esteem, and the highest reverence, and to confess a solicitude for the continuance of the government of a nobleman, to whose person we are attached by affection, and to whose administration we are bound by our interest.

"As we had the honour of thanking your Excellency for that part

part which you have taken in that national concern, the removal of all doubts as to the independency of this country, we trust that your Excellency may remain among us to behold the consummation of that great end, in which you have so greatly administered, and which will create a more firm union between this country and Great Britain than any usurped power could procure, and which force only could continue.

" We therefore trust that those exertions, which have made your administration agreeable to the people of Ireland, will continue to render them acceptable to his Majesty; and we humbly hope that no circumstance will prevent your Excellency from continuing to give us those proofs which we have already experienced, in the highest degree, of your unremitting attention to whatever can distinguish an honest, upright, and virtuous government.

" We beg leave to assure you that the present address is not in the common-place tribute which ordinary occasions produce. We have, with changes in our sister kingdom, beheld changes in the government of this; and we cannot, without anxiety, hear that some change is now meditated in his Majesty's ministry in England, only because we fear it will lead to the departure of your Excellency, which, whenever it may happen, we must feel with regret, and meet with reluctance."

To which his Excellency was pleased to return the following answer:

" Nothing can be more truly flattering to my feelings, than the honourable testimony which your address bears to my exertions for the happiness of this kingdom. In every situation I must remember, with pride and gratitude, these proofs of your affectionate regard and good-will; and if I have been so fortunate as to have promoted that system of legislative and commercial freedom, so necessary for the prosperity of Ireland, my services are truly overpaid, and I need not add how I wish to be enabled to continue them in a situation which such a testimony must endear to me."

On Tuesday, the 25th of March, the following address, from the Grand Jury of the county of Wicklow, was presented to his Excellency:

" To

" *To his Excellency George Nugent Grenville, Earl Temple, Lord Lieutenant General, and General Governor of Ireland.*

" We, the High-sheriff and Grand Jury of the county of Wicklow, assembled at Wicklow the Lent assizes, on the 20th of March 1783, unanimously beg leave to assure your Excellency of our most grateful sense of your very uncommon and unremitted attention to the prosperity of this kingdom, from the commencement of your government; particularly for your endeavours to fix, on a firm basis, the harmony and cordiality between his Majesty's kingdoms, on which their mutual happiness most evidently depends; for such abuses you have put a stop to, and the reforms you have introduced in various public departments; for your liberal encouragement of our manufactures, and your protection of our public charitable institutions, in the exercise of which points your most amiable consort so eminently distinguishes herself.

" We ardently hope that no change in his Majesty's ministers may occasion our being deprived of a chief Governor, whose conduct makes his administration shine with so uncommon a lustre."

To which his Excellency was pleased to return the following answer:

" Nothing can be more acceptable to me than the very honourable testimony which you are pleased to bear to my exertions for the happiness of this kingdom. I return you my best acknowledgments of my affection and regard, to which I am truly sensible; and it will at all times give me the highest pleasure to have been the humble instrument of conveying to you the most satisfactory marks of his Majesty's anxious attention to the constitution, commerce, and manufactures of Ireland."

May 2, 1783. This day the President and Vice-president of the Council of the Chamber of Commerce waited on his Excellency the Lord-lieutenant with the following address:

" *To his Excellency George Nugent Grenville, Earl Temple, Lord Lieutenant General, and General Governor of Ireland.*

The humble address of the Merchants composing the Council of the Chamber of Commerce of the City of Dublin.

" Emboldened by your Excellency's earnest and unremitting at-

tention to the welfare of this kingdom, We, the Merchants composing the Council of the Chamber of Commerce of the City of Dublin, in behalf of ourselves and the general trade of the country, beg leave to represent to your Excellency, that by the recent and most authentic advices from Portugal, we have the mortification to find our trade to that kingdom, in respect to the admission of our manufactures, still labouring under restraints and difficulties, nearly amounting to a prohibition, and such as must put an immediate and almost total stop to the exportation from Ireland of its manufactured goods to that country; a circumstance of serious and alarming prejudice to the trade of this kingdom.

"The weight of the subject, and its great importance to the trade of this country, (which has been taken so peculiarly under your Excellency's patronage) we are convinced render it unnecessary for us to implore your Excellency's attention to this business, which we cannot regard but with considerable anxiety; we deem it equally superfluous to intreat your Excellency, that should new commercial treaties come to be formed between Great Britain and Portugal, or other states, the interests of this country may be secured by the common Sovereign, and equal advantages stipulated for Ireland as for Great Britain.

"TRAVERS HARTLEY, President.
"ANTHONY DERMOTT, } Vice-presidents."
"DANIEL MARSTON, }

Which address his Excellency was pleased to honour with the following answer:

"I am happy at all times to receive every communication and information from that respectable body of Merchants composing the Council of the Chamber of Commerce of the City of Dublin.

"The grievances of which you complain respecting the restraints and difficulties attending the admission of your manufactures into the kingdom of Portugal press severely upon my feelings. I have seen the evasion of a solemn treaty with an indignation proportioned to my sense of the national good faith with which Ireland has maintained it. In the very earliest stages of this new exaction and regulations, amounting in fact to a prohibition, I transmitted, and often repeated the strongest representations to England,

England, in order to be communicated to the court of Lisbon. Obvious circumstances have delayed this business, which, I trust, will be immediately resumed and settled, with the attention and justice due from the court of Portugal to this kingdom.

"I have the satisfaction to add, that, in answer to my representations many weeks since, I received assurances that, from his Majesty's paternal regard for his faithful people of Ireland, the interests of this country will be secured in all treaties, and equal advantages stipulated for Ireland as for Great Britain."

To these and other testimonies, so honourable and extensive, it may be proper to add an extract from the debates of the house of commons of Ireland on the same subject.

"The Right Hon. LUKE GARDINER said, he rose to make a motion, "That the thanks of this house be presented to our late chief governor, Earl Temple." He observed, that this nobleman had received addresses of thanks from every county in this kingdom for his conduct as chief governor, as every public measure carried with it so much wisdom and integrity; and in his private character he had concurred in every thing tending to the interest of Ireland, and had laid down such plans as would have been a national benefit, had he continued in the government of this nation; that he had been addressed from persons of all ranks whatever; and that nothing but the sanction of this house was wanting to render the thanks of the people of this country universal.

"Mr. CUFFE said that he would second the motion, having been witness to the many anxious days and nights his Excellency had spent in preparing plans to promote the welfare of this country; which (said Mr. Cuffe), had he staid long enough in Ireland to have put in execution, would, he doubted not, be highly approved of.

"Mr. ADDERLY said he would oppose the motion, and assign his reason for dissenting from the vote of thanks. A clerk of his attending the Barrack-board, had embezzled the public money. As soon as it came to his knowledge he waited on Lord

Temple, and promised to make good the deficiency in a few months. The clerk also attended, and confessed he owed the money. He said, Lord Temple lamented his situation. But as soon as he (Mr. Adderly) left that nobleman, the crown solicitor was ordered to proceed against him without mercy. Thus was he used with unheard-of cruelty. He would be glad to know what good this man had done for Ireland; he insisted he had done nothing meritorious. He had heard of many addresses, but he believed they were all solicited and procured by the Earl himself.

" Sir Henry Hartstonge assured the house the address from Limerick was not solicited, and that it contained the sentiments of the people at large of every religion.

" Mr. Adderly. I confine myself to the address from the Roman Catholics.

" Mr. Cuffe assured the hon. member he had been a witness to the distress it gave Earl Temple, when justice compelled him to give orders for suing him, and that nothing but the welfare of the state could occasion it.

" The Right Hon. John Beresford said, he could assure the house that the addresses from the county of Waterford to Earl Temple were spontaneous and unsolicited. He had been many years in a public station, in consequence of which he had been often with chief governors relative to business, but he never saw such assiduity and attention in any former Viceroy, as he had experienced on the part of Earl Temple. When this house comes to investigate the public papers, they will see the œconomical hand of Lord Temple in a variety of instances.

" Sir Samuel Bradstreet. I should not have expressed my sentiments of the conduct of Lord Temple, whose virtues are so thoroughly understood by the whole kingdom, but that an assertion fell from the hon. member on the floor, which makes it necessary for me to rise. He says that addresses were procured in the several counties by Lord Temple himself, and being contradicted in that, he has thought proper to confine his assertion to the city of Dublin. It belongs to the office I have the honour to fill to prepare addresses of the kind, when agreed on by the corporation; but I can with truth assert, that until the address was

agreed

agreed on by the city, Lord Temple had no knowledge of it. I can make great allowance for the soreness of the hon. member's situation: he has *felt* Lord Temple; but, although justice required that the offence should be punished, yet I am satisfied the humanity of his Lordship had a tear of compassion for the offender.

" Sir Henry Cavendish said, he could very well suppose that some gentlemen had opportunities of knowing the integrity and wisdom of Lord Temple; but, in his opinion, it was fit the house should have authentic evidence of it before they passed a vote of thanks to Lord Temple, who never met parliament. In his opinion, this question should be postponed for a few days; they would then see whether he had the œconomical hand which had been mentioned, and whether he deserves these encomiums or not. Public fame has not spoken of Lord Temple as he has been spoken of in this house: public fame represents Lord Temple as a jobber; therefore, if I am to give my vote this night, I will give this resolution a negative. If it is postponed, and I have authentic documents of his integrity and wisdom, I think I shall give him my vote, which in my present uninformed state I cannot do.

" The Right Hon. John Scott, observing a pause in the house, arose and said, when this motion was introduced by a right hon. member, of amiable and distinguished character, and when I saw it so ably supported by the two right hon. gentlemen who followed him (Mr. Rowley and Mr. Cuffe), I did not think it possible that there could have been a single negative to it, especially as this house is only invited to declare collectively these sentiments which every Irishman has spoken individually. This house is now called upon to re-echo the voice of the whole nation, and to dignify it with the approbation of parliament I cannot, indeed, say that I am sorry to have found that in the whole Irish nation there were but two persons disposed to resist the sense of their country, " and be it remembered that they were the debtors of our Sovereign Lord the King;" but their reasons and their motives sufficiently explain themselves, and, in my apprehension, complete the panegyric which a grateful nation bestows upon a most virtuous and deserving governor.

Indeed, nothing less than Lord Temple's firmness could have resisted so many engaging qualifications as assaulted his humanity in the person of the hon. gentleman. But I will take leave of him, and apply myself to the right hon. gentleman who principally opposes this address, and says roundly that common fame calls Lord Temple a jobber. I do assert, not knowing from what cavern the right hon. gentleman has received the report, *impersonated* as she may be, and represented through whatever lips she *is*, I say that common fame is a liar, if she says that Lord Temple was a jobber. I received no favour from Lord Temple, or from his administration. I was not even connected with him by the common ties of conviviality; but I stand forth an impartial witness of his conduct and his merit, to maintain the consistency and characteristic generosity of Ireland. I knew Lord Temple to be a man devoted to public business, singularly endowed, of uncommon firmness and talents, and indefatigable in the pursuit of every object that could contribute to the honour or advantage of this kingdom. No less than thirty counties have offered him their voluntary thanks, and yet the hon. gentleman wants authentic evidence to justify his approbation. I will give him more authentic evidence, the umpire of the almighty conscience, the conscience of every honest man in this nation.

"Mr. Clements said he had transacted business with the Lord-lieutenant, and never met in any chief governor one more indefatigable, or who had the interests of Ireland more at heart.

"Sir John Blaquiere also joined and ably maintained the same sentiments; as did Mr. Fitzgibbon, and several other members.

"The house divided. For the resolution of thanks, 127; against it, one.

Saturday, November 1, 1783.

"Mr. Speaker reported that he had, pursuant to order, communicated, by letter, to George Earl Temple the resolution of this house of the 15th of October last; to which his Lordship was pleased to return the following answer:

"Sir, *Stowe, October 23, 1783.*

"I am honoured with your letter of the 10th, inclosing the resolution of the house of commons of the 15th instant.

"I must

" I must request you to convey to the house my sincere and grateful acknowledgments for this distinguished mark of their goodness to me; my feelings of honest ambition are amply gratified by the approbation of his Majesty, and of the kingdom whose interests he was pleased to commit to my care; and the only return which I can make for the flattering testimony which you have transmitted, is the assurance of my unremitting attention to the interests of Ireland, which must be ever dear to me, and my fervent wish for the continuance of the dignity and authority of your honourable house.

" Permit me to add my fullest sense of the very favourable expressions in your letter, and to assure you of the high respect and regard with which I have the honour to be,

" Sir,

" Your very obedient humble servant,

Right Hon. the Speaker of the House of Commons of Ireland. } NUGENT TEMPLE."

On the last day of April 1783 the Earl of Northington was appointed Lord-lieutenant of Ireland; and on the 3d day of June, in the same year, his Lordship arrived in Dublin, to take upon him the government of that kingdom. Earl Temple immediately resigned his office, and the same day embarked for England. In his passage through the streets his Lordship received the greatest demonstrations of respect from the people, who testified their regard of him by repeated wishes for his future welfare and happiness.

The affairs of the East India Company had for many years occupied the attention of the British parliament. Many schemes of regulation and management had been proposed, and many had been attempted; but still a great number of abuses continued. A strong efficient power was wanted. Mr. Fox, who was now secretary of state, conceived that a bill might be form-

ed that would supply this want. Having declared his intention of so doing, Mr. Pitt (second son of the celebrated Earl of Chatham), who was at this time in opposition to the new ministry, loudly called on Mr. Fox to bring forward, without delay, some plan for securing and improving the advantages that might be derived from our possessions in the east; a plan not of temporary palliation, or timorous expedients, but vigorous and effectual, suited to the magnitude, the importance, and the alarming exigency of the case.

In the month of November 1783, Mr. Secretary Fox accordingly brought his two India bills into the house of commons; the first of which purported to be, "for vesting the affairs of the East India Company in the hands of certain commissioners, for the benefit of the proprietors and the public." This is the bill that is commonly called Mr. Fox's India bill; the other bill was, for "the better government of the territorial possessions and dependencies in India."

Both of these passed the house of commons. On the 9th day of December 1783, the former was read, for the first time, in the house of lords. When the reading was finished Earl Temple immediately rose to oppose it; and said, he seized that first opportunity to enter his solemn protest against so infamous a bill. It contained a stretch of power that was truly alarming; it went near to seize the most essential part of the constitution, our chartered rights. Notwithstanding it had been carried with a high hand in another place, he trusted their lordships would never give it their approbation, without being thoroughly convinced

convinced that the plea which had been used, and which indeed was the only plea that could possibly be used, *actual necessity*, was a just one. The second reading was ordered for Monday the 15th of December.

Between the ninth and fifteenth, a variety of rumours were circulated; and some of them with particular industry. A short statement of these, and of the facts connected with them, we shall endeavour to give, adhering to the truth as nearly as we are enabled to ascertain it. It was confidently affirmed, that his Majesty having been made acquainted with Earl Temple's strong and decided opposition to the bill, commanded his attendance in the closet on the 11th day of December; when he signified to his Lordship, his disapprobation of the India bill, and authorized him to declare the same to such persons as he might think fit; that a written note was put into his hands, in which his Majesty declared, "that he should deem those who should vote for it not his friends; and that if he (Lord Temple) could put this in stronger words, he had full authority to do so;" and lastly, That in consequence of this authority, communications had been made to several peers, and particularly to those whose offices and duties obliged them to attend the King's person.

Some extraordinary circumstances, which happened on the day appointed for the second reading of the bill, seemed to confirm the probability of the truth of these reports. Several lords who had entrusted their proxies to the minister and his friends, withdrew them only

only a few hours before the house met; and others, whose support he had every reason to expect, gave their votes against him. On a division the ministry were found to be in a minority of seventy-nine to eighty-seven. This was on a question of adjournment. On the 17th of December the bill was rejected by a majority of nineteen; the numbers being for the bill seventy-six, against it ninety-five. It was remarked, that the Prince of Wales, who was in the minority in the former division, was absent on this occassion.

At twelve o'clock on the following night a messenger delivered to the two secretaries of state (Lord North and Mr. Fox) his Majesty's commands, "that they should deliver up the seals of their offices, and send them by the under-secretaries, Mr. Frazer and Mr. Nepean, as a personal interview would be dispensed with." The seals were immediately given to Earl Temple, who sent letters of dismission to the rest of the ministers on the day following, when Mr. Pitt was appointed first lord of the treasury and chancellor of the exchequer.

Much obloquy on all parties, and many false reports attended this dismission of the ministry; and an enquiry into the causes and manner of it was menaced in the house of commons. On the 22d day of December, the principal arrangements being made, Earl Temple resigned the seals into his Majesty's own hands. They were given to Lord Sydney. On the same day, Mr. William Wyndham Grenville (now Lord Grenville), youngest brother to the Marquis of Buckingham, informed the house of commons that the noble earl (his

(his brother), to whom certain allusions had been lately made, had authorized him to declare that he was ready to meet any charge brought against him; and that he had thought fit to resign the seals of his office, in order to avoid the smallest suspicion of seeking for protection or shelter in the power and influence of a minister. Those persons who are desirous of more minute information on this subject, will find every part of it fully detailed in the parliamentary debates of that period, which are too long and too tedious to be reprinted here. Notwithstanding his Lordship resigned his post of secretary of state, he supported Mr. Pitt's ministry to the end with all his influence and power.

On the 30th day of November 1784 his Majesty was pleased to advance his Lordship to a higher dignity, by the title of Marquis of Buckingham, &c. On the 3d day of June 1786 he was also honoured with the order of the garter.

On the 2d day of November 1787 his Majesty was pleased to appoint his Lordship, by a rare instance of favour, Lord-lieutenant of Ireland, for the second time.

An unfortunate circumstance occurred during the following year. His Majesty became afflicted, at the end of the autumn in 1788, with a violent disorder, which greatly alarmed and much grieved his subjects. During the continuance of this malady the parliament of Ireland met, on the 5th day of February 1789. The Lord-lieutenant opened the session with a speech, expressing his great concern that the illness with which the

the King was afflicted had prevented his being honoured with any instructions, and therefore he could only recommend to the two houses of parliament an early attention to the usual and ordinary business.

But on the 16th day of February both houses agreed to an address to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, to take upon him the government of Ireland during the King's infirmity; and they also presented an address to the Lord-lieutenant, requesting his Excellency to transmit their wishes to the Prince.

The following is the answer of the Lord-lieutenant to the address of both houses of parliament on this occasion:

"*My Lords and Gentlemen*,

"Under the impression which I feel of my official duty, and of the oath which I have taken as chief Governor of Ireland, I am obliged to decline transmitting this address into Great Britain.

"For I cannot consider myself warranted to lay before the Prince of Wales this address, purporting to invest his Royal Highness with powers to take upon him the government of this realm, before he shall be enabled by law so to do."

Notwithstanding this refusal, the two houses persevered in their resolutions; and for this purpose delegates were appointed, who went to London and presented the address to his Royal Highness, on the 27th day of February. While this matter was in agitation the King suddenly recovered, which prevented any further measures on this subject, and on the 25th day of May the session ended. In a little time after, his Excellency resigned and returned to England, the Earl of Westmoreland having been appointed his successor.

The

The noble Marquis has ever since lived in retirement at his princely mansion at Stowe, which has been so often celebrated by our best writers, that it needs no mention here, exercising his power and influence to the satisfaction of all, and maintaining an honourable and dignified style of life becoming his high rank and large fortune.

His Lordship's parliamentary interest is supposed to be, one representative for the county of Bucks, two for the town of Buckingham, and two for St. Maw's, in Cornwall.

EARL TEMPLE.

This nobleman is the eldest son of the Marquis of Buckingham, and is representative in parliament for the county of Buckingham. He has already shewn his hereditary parliamentary talents on several occasions, but more particularly in the case of Mr. John Horne Tooke, a clergyman, who was elected member for Old Sarum.

As soon as Mr. Tooke had taken the usual oaths and his seat, Lord Temple rose and said, that in his opinion a clergyman was not eligible to a seat there, and therefore he would bring the matter fully before the house. There was some debate on the subject, which ended in the appointment of a committee to search for precedents, and to report on the case. When the committee had made their report, the house ordered it to be taken into consideration on the 6th day of May 1801, at which period Lord Temple entered with considerable ability into a minute and historical deduction of facts relative to any possible

possible right or claim that clergymen could have to a seat in parliament.

In the reign of Charles the First, an act passed prohibiting the clergy from the exercise of any temporal power whatever, and in the year 1666 their former right to sit in parliament was given up, and in lieu of it they were allowed to vote for representatives. In no one instance since the reformation had they ever claimed a right to sit in parliament as representatives of the commons, although during the reign of Elizabeth they presented a petition on this subject, describing themselves as the fittest persons to maintain the queen's prerogative. This being rejected, a similar petition was presented in the reign of James the Second; which experienced a similar fate. Thus it was evident they had twice solicited this as a *favour*, which they would not have done, if they had conceived that they possessed a *right*.

It had been affirmed that the reverend gentleman in question was no longer in holy orders, but this was said to be impossible, as the clergy could not abdicate their functions: they could not divest themselves of the solemn engagements entered into at the time of their ordination, in consequence of which this reverend gentleman had enjoyed certain privileges, and was open to them yet; for if any patron presented him now with a benefice, though he had thrown off his gown, he would not be under the necessity of a new ordination in order to accept of it. His Lordship concluded with moving that a new writ be issued for Old Sarum.

This

This was undoubtedly the proper mode of proceeding; but the minister (Mr. Addington) thought that a bill, to exclude the clergy from parliament, was preferable. He accordingly brought such a bill in; and it passed into a law. Earl Temple married the daughter and heiress of the late Duke of Chandos; by whom he has a son, Lord Cobham. His countess is a peeress in her own right, by the title of Baroness Bruce, which her ladyship inherits from the Bruces of Scotland; Henry, the second Duke of Chandos, marrying the eldest daughter and co-heiress of Charles Lord Bruce, son to Thomas Earl of Aylesbury.

RIGHT HON. THOMAS GRENVILLE.

This gentleman is the second son of the late Right Hon. George Grenville, and is next brother to the Marquis of Buckingham. He is esteemed an able speaker in parliament, and is a gentleman of easy and elegant manners, happily tempering the spirit and dignity of the man of honour* with the politeness and agreeable polish of good breeding.

In the politics of the year 1782 he not only adhered to Mr. Fox, but continued attached to that party for some years; and so high did Mr. Fox and the Marquis of Rockingham estimate his talents, that had Lord Rockingham lived, he was intended to have been appointed ambassador to France, to negociate the peace with M. de Vergennes, the most subtle minister at that time in Europe.

* This alludes probably to some expressions which passed between him and the Hon. Mr. Hampden, now Lord Hampden, at the election at Aylesbury, for the county of Buckingham, in the year 1780.

This

This course of politics occasioned a difference with his noble relatives, and prevented his being a member of that parliament which was elected in the year 1784. But in the following, which was convoked in 1790, he was chosen for Aldborough, in Suffolk, by the interest of Mr. Fox's friends.

At the general election in the year 1796, having been reconciled to his relations, he was elected one of the representatives for the town of Buckingham.

When the king of Prussia seceded from the continental confederacy against France, in March 1794, Mr. Grenville was some time after appointed minister extraordinary to Berlin, with the view of re-uniting his Prussian majesty with the allies. But this appointment being made in the depth of that uncommonly severe winter, during which the British troops suffered so dreadfully in their retreat through Holland, (1795) his voyage to the continent was attended with the most perilous circumstances. The frost became so intense, that the vessel in which he embarked could not, on account of the ice, approach nearer to the shore than four or five miles, and she was accordingly obliged to return to England. But such was his anxiety and zeal, that notwithstanding the severity of the season he resolved to make another effort. He therefore put to sea, and the most desperate exertions were made to reach the land, but without effect; for the vessel became so fixed in the ice that she could not be moved either way, and she soon became a wreck, so that part of the crew perished.

Mr. Grenville got upon the ice, and had only time

to

to preserve his dispatches, for he saved nothing else. He was now upwards of three miles from the land. In this most perilous and distressing situation he proceeded with great difficulty and danger, until he reached the shore. He stopped only to obtain some necessaries, and then proceeded with all possible haste to Berlin. But the French government having gained information of this embassy before Mr. Grenville set off, they sent the Abbé Sieyes to Berlin to prevent the king of Prussia from abandoning his new engagements. The Abbé Sieyes succeeded, and confirmed the Prussian cabinet in their resolution of neutrality; consequently Mr. Grenville's mission was completely counteracted, most probably owing to his being sent too late.

Upon the death of Lord Sidney, in the year 1800, Mr. Grenville was appointed chief justice in eyre south of Trent, in his lordship's room; which place he holds for life. He is unmarried.

RIGHT HON. WILLIAM WYNDHAM GRENVILLE, LORD GRENVILLE.

[Although we have given a life of this nobleman before, in volume iii, page 420, yet the following short account, being written by another gentleman, well acquainted with the family, and consequently of more presumed accuracy, we cannot refuse affording it a place, our wish being always to state every character with the utmost correctness.]

He is the third son of the late Right Hon. George Grenville, and second brother to the Marquis of Buck-

ingham. While a youth he was acknowledged to be very promising in talents, and age has not falsified the prediction. His first public situation was that of secretary to his noble brother, the Marquis of Buckingham, the first time he was Lord-lieutenant of Ireland.

A few months after his return from that country he was, in the year 1783, appointed paymaster-general of the army, in the room of Mr. Burke.

In the month of January 1789, the Right Hon. Charles Wolfran Cornwall, speaker of the house of commons, died*. On the first day that the house met after the death of the speaker, Lord Euston rose and said, "that the hon. gentleman whom he should take the liberty of proposing to fill the vacant chair, was a man of such splendid abilities, experienced assiduity, and perfect knowledge of parliamentary privilege, resulting from the closest attention to business ever since he had enjoyed a seat in that house, as pointed him out to be the proper successor of the late speaker. Mr. Grenville was the hon. gentleman whom he meant to recommend; and when the house considered his excellent understanding, and unremitted industry, he trusted that their minds would go with his in thinking that these qualifications rendered Mr. Grenville an object worthy of their choice. Much, he said, might be urged on the score of the hon. gentleman's private character; that stamp of merit, added to his parliamentary knowledge, and strength of mind,

* Both the last speakers lay dead at the same time, viz. Mr. Cornwall and Sir Fletcher Norton, who, after he had quitted the chair, had been created Lord Grantley.

and

and of constitution, rendered him in every point of view so unexceptionable, that it was unnecessary for him to say any thing more. He therefore moved, that the Hon. William Wyndham Grenville do now take the chair."—Sir William Pulteney seconded the motion; which was agreed to.

In the month of June 1789 Mr. Grenville was appointed secretary of state, in the room of Lord Sidney, who was made chief justice in eyre. Lord Sidney was secretary for the home department, to which Lord Grenville succeeded, and held the same until June 1791, when the Duke of Leeds resigned, and then Lord Grenville succeeded his Grace in the foreign department. At the same time, Mr. Dundas (now Lord Melville) succeeded Lord Grenville in the home department.

In the month of April 1792 the French king, with the approbation of the national assembly, declared war against the king of Bohemia and Hungary. In consequence of this measure, Louis XVI. sent a new ambassador to London, in order to prevent England taking any part in the war. At that time Earl Gower was the British ambassador at Paris. The French king, in his letter to the king of Great Britain, dated on the first of May 1792, says, "he has appointed M. Chauvelin his minister plenipotentiary; and because he is not of the same rank as Lord Gower, he has associated in the mission with him M. de Talleyrand, who by the letter of the constitution can sustain no public character." These words shew that M. de Talleyrand was once a royalist, and that he is

acquainted with London at least, if not with England.

It has been asserted, and the assertion, if true, is of the first importance, that M. Chauvelin was authorised to offer to the British ministry their choice of the French possessions in the East *or* West Indies, as *the price of neutrality*; and that the answer was, "that we had already colonies enough, and did not wish to be burthened with any more." Had this offer been accepted, it is more than probable the war would not have happened.

On Monday the 21st day of January 1793 the French king was decollated. Intelligence of this event arrived in London on the 23d. On the 24th, Lord Grenville, by his Majesty's command, ordered M. Chauvelin and his suite to quit the kingdom; which he did the next day. Notwithstanding these circumstances, the executive council of France was still anxious to preserve a good understanding with England, and immediately upon the arrival of M. Chauvelin at Paris, M. Maret, secretary to Le Brun, minister for foreign affairs, was dispatched to London to renew the negotiation. Lord Grenville refused to see him, because the British cabinet did not chuse to acknowledge the new mode of government in France; but Mr. Pitt saw him in the capacity of a private gentleman. And the national convention, some time afterwards, published an account of a conversation between Mr. Pitt and M. Maret. By this conversation it appears, that Mr. Pitt at that time was averse to war; but there was a party in the British cabinet who

who were for war, and Mr. Pitt was in the minority.

Mr. Pitt said to Maret, "One of your friends told Mr. Long* that you were very desirous of seeing me before you returned to France."

Maret replied, "Mr. Long told my friend that you would willingly converse with me on the interests of the two nations, and I am ready to give you all the information I can. But you know, Sir, I have no acknowledged authorized character."

Mr. Pitt. "I know it. I am myself not authorized to see you; but I hope our conversation will not be the less friendly for not being official." He demanded of me what were the intentions of the French government in relation to Holland? I assured him that the executive council, and the minister of foreign affairs, had no hostile projects against Holland. Then he spoke to me of the alarms of the government, and mercantile interests of England; of the absolute resolution of the ministry to support the allies of Britain, and to execute rigorously the treaties which unite her to other powers. He gave me assurances of his sincere desire to avoid a war. He pressed me to inform him if the French government entertained the same desire? I answered, yes. He then said, "It is very unfortunate, Sir, that there has existed a long time between us a distance so injurious in its effects. Silence inflames on both sides suspicion and distrust. Could it not be possible that we should find some means of

* Charles Long, Esq. one of the joint secretaries to the treasury.

communication, of understanding each other, of coming nearer together ?"

I replied, "You seem to speak, Sir, of a secret agent. I foresee a difficulty: you know that we profess a great respect for the public opinion, which constitutes the force of free governments, and which is a wholesome restraint on those who govern. This public opinion is ready to demand of the provisional executive council, why it has had the weakness not to require the recognition of the French republic by England? Will it then be possible to treat with you by the means of a secret agent ?"

To this Mr. Pitt answered, " The question of a public character is precisely what we must avoid. Do not reject the sole means of bringing us together, and of making us understand each other. We shall then examine all the questions you propose to us, and all the propositions you make us."

It has been already remarked, that the British cabinet were at this time divided on the question of war. The majority were for war; and Mr. Pitt, who had been against it, now joined his colleagues, and thus the war commenced.

Concerning the operations of the war, it is not the design of this work to enter into a detail of them. Lord Grenville's conduct, as secretary of state for the foreign department, (the Right Hon. Henry Dundas being the secretary for the war department) could not contain any thing very material beyond the usual routine of business; except that in the month of November 1795 his Lordship brought a bill into the house

house of lords, entitled "An act for the safety and preservation of his Majesty's person and government against treasonable and seditious practices and attempts;" which, after very long and spirited debates, passed into a law. The occasion of the bill was, his Majesty was most grossly insulted by the populace in his way to the house of lords, when he went to open the session on the 29th of October 1795.

In the year 1792 his Lordship was appointed ranger and keeper of St. James's and Hyde-parks, in the room of the Earl of Orford; which he resigned in 1794, on being appointed auditor of the exchequer for life, in the room of the Duke of Newcastle.

When the resolution of forming an union with Ireland was taken by the British ministry, in the year 1800, amongst the many negotiations for effecting this measure, there was one with the principal heads of the catholics of Ireland; and it was settled between them and the British ministry, that if the catholics gave no opposition to the plan of the Union, the ministry would promote, with all their interest and sincerity, a bill for the *emancipation* of the Irish catholics. When the bill for the Union had passed both in England and Ireland, the promise of the ministry was expected to be fulfilled, and Lord Castlereagh gave notice in the British house of commons that he would move for leave to bring in a bill for that purpose. At this instant a Great Person interfered: he put his *veto* on the intended proceedings. The ministry conceiving themselves bound in honour to perform the engagement they had made, and now finding they could

not, resolved to resign; accordingly, on the 11th day of January 1801, Mr. Pitt resigned his offices of chancellor of the exchequer and first lord of the treasury. This resignation was immediately followed by that of Lord Grenville, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Spencer, Mr. Dundas (now Lord Melville), and Mr. Windham.

No circumstance can place Lord Grenville's merits, character, and talents in a higher and more respectable estimation, than the opinion and conduct of Mr. Pitt in the months of March and April 1803; when, through the mediation of Lord Grenville, a negotiation was opened between Mr. Pitt and Mr. Addington to bring Mr. Pitt into office. After several messages and answers had passed, Mr. Pitt at length declared that he could not accept the terms offered, unless he could have the assistance of Lord Grenville in a cabinet office. This demand being refused, the negociation was broken off. This high opinion of Mr. Pitt, of Lord Grenville's political talents, requires no comment. It confirms the public opinion of his lordship's judgment and capacity.

The late Right Honourable George Grenville had four daughters. Charlotte the eldest, married in December 1771, the late Sir Watkin Williams Wynne; the next, Elizabeth, married, in April 1787, the Earl of Carysfort; Hester, married in May 1782 Earl Fortescue; Catharine, the youngest, married Lord Braybrooke in June 1780, and died in 1796. They have all issue.

RIGHT

RIGHT HON. LORD GLASTONBURY, &c.

His Lordship is the eldest son of the late Right Honourable James Grenville, second brother of the late Earl Temple. In 1766 he was elected member for Thirsk, in Yorkshire, and afterwards for the town of Buckingham. In 1797 he was created a peer, with the remainder (if his Lordship has no issue) to his brother General Richard Grenville, colonel of the twenty-third regiment of foot, and ranger of Windsor Little Park. He served under Sir William Howe (now Viscount Howe) in the American war, and was at the battle of the White Plains, and other places.

The late Hon. Henry Grenville, third brother to the late Earl Temple, left a daughter, who is married to Earl Stanhope, his lordship's second countess.

In many of the accounts of this family there is a mistake, that has been frequently adopted, viz. that the Temples of Stowe, in Buckinghamshire, are the descendants of the celebrated Sir William Temple, memorable for his negotiations from 1665 to 1679; whereas the fact is, that Peter Temple, a descendant of the Temples of Shepey, did, in the reigns of Edward the Sixth and Queen Elizabeth, purchase several manors in Warwickshire, and the manor of Stowe, in Buckinghamshire.

This Peter Temple had several children, but we shall mention only two of them; John the first son, and William the eighth son. From John was descended, in a direct line, Sir Richard Temple, of Stowe, who being bred to a military life, served with great reputation

putation under the Duke of Marlborough during Queen Anne's wars, and was by George the First created Lord Viscount Cobham. He died without issue; but had several sisters, the eldest of whom was married to Richard Grenville, Esq. of Wotton, in the county of Buckingham, to whom and her issue the title was limited. From the issue of that marriage all the present Grenvilles are descended. Thus the elder branch of the Temples was merged in the Grenvilles.

We will now return to William, the eighth son of Peter Temple. He was also bred to arms; and was highly esteemed by the celebrated Sir Philip Sydney, who died in his arms at the battle of Zutphen, in 1586. From him was descended the famous Sir William Temple above mentioned; and from the same Sir William Temple is descended the present Lord Viscount Palmerstone, the junior branch of the Temples.

GENERAL SIR WILLIAM FAWCETT, K. B.

THE great Lord Bacon, in his Essays, most aptly says, that "the mould of a man's fortune is in his own hands;" the truth of which has been often verified. As an instance, in our times, we make no apology in giving the following particulars of a good and brave officer, who rose by his merit to the confidence of his Sovereign, and the honours attending the profession of arms.

Sir William Fawcett began his military service as a volunteer,

volunteer, during the German war of 1741. He was at the battles of Dettingen and Fontenoy, and afterwards obtained an ensigney in a regiment raised by a Colonel Johnstone, which served on the continent. At the peace of 1748 he returned to England, when the regiment was disbanded.

Being now out of employment as a military man, he entered as a clerk in a mercantile house in the city of London, and while in that situation, formed a matrimonial connexion with the daughter of a merchant, by whom he got three thousand pounds. Being attached to the profession of arms, he soon after purchased an ensigney in the guards, and by his strict attention to duty, was noticed by his Royal Highness William Duke of Cumberland, who gave him the adjutancy of the second battalion of the third foot guards, on the 1st of December, 1757. Prior to that, he had succeeded in March the same year to a lieutenancy which gave him the rank of captain.

At his leisure hours he studied the German and French languages, in which he was assisted by a foreigner who acted in a medical capacity in the Savoy. By his knowledge of the former he was enabled to translate the great Frederick of Prussia's Regulations for Infantry and Cavalry, which were published by subscription, in two volumes octavo, in 1756 and 1757. They met with great attention, and added much to our knowledge in the interior œconomy of troops. That excellent work, "Bland's Treatise on Military Discipline," being rendered in many particulars obsolete, by the new improvements introduced by that able

able and illustrious officer, the Duke of Cumberland, Captain Fawcett published a new edition of it in 1760, which met with a very favourable reception. Though the system is now by the labours of Sir David Dundas entirely altered, yet Fawcett's improvement of Bland will always merit a place in an officer's library, particularly for camp and garrison duty.

From his knowledge of the French and German, Captain Fawcett was particularly noticed by General Grenville Elliot, an officer of eminence in the Dutch service, who was brought into the British army as first colonel of the 61st regiment, with the rank of major general. With him, we believe he acted as aid-de-camp in the expedition to Conceale Bay in 1758.

When it was determined to send a body of troops to the continent, Captain Fawcett was recommended by General Grenville Elliot to act as commissary to the forces. On the appointment of the great and gallant Marquis of Granby to the command of the British under the late Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick in 1759, he selected Captain Fawcett as deputy adjutant-general, and obtained for him the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the army, the 25th of November 1760. With the Marquis he remained till the peace of 1763, when he returned to England. His stay there was very short, as from his knowledge of the German language and his late office, his Majesty thought him a very proper person to be his commissary to settle the claims made by the allies against Great Britain for the expences of the war, which he accordingly

accordingly performed with much honour and credit to the nation and himself.

In November 1767 Captain Fawcett obtained a company in the guards; he soon after acted as deputy adjutant-general under Generals Harvey, and William Amherst, and in May 1772 he was promoted to the rank of colonel by brevet.

At the commencement of the American war, Lieutenant-colonel Fawcett was sent to Germany, to negociate with Hesse, Hanover, Brunswick, &c. for a body of troops to serve in North America, Gibraltar, and the East Indies.

In August 1777 he was raised to the rank of major-general, and the following year he succeeded to the adjutant-generalship by the death of General William Amherst, and also became colonel of the fifteenth regiment of foot. In November 1782 he was made a lieutenant-general, and in 1786 his Majesty honoured him with the ribband of the bath.

The third dragoon guards becoming vacant by the death of General Phillipson, in August 1792, his Majesty, ever attentive to Sir William Fawcett, conferred it on him. In the course of this year the *rules and regulations for the formations, field exercise, and movements of his Majesty's forces*, were printed, and by an order signed "William Fawcett, adjutant-general," directed to be followed by the British army. This system was compiled from Sir David Dundas's "Principles of Military Movements chiefly applicable to Infantry."

In May 1796 Sir William Fawcett obtained the rank

rank of general. The office of adjutant-general being of the utmost consequence, and requiring great exertions, he now formed the resolution of relinquishing it in favour of some young and active officer. His Majesty was accordingly pleased to accept of the worthy veteran's resignation with some reluctance; but as a proof of his regard he granted him an allowance of five pounds per diem for life in lieu thereof, and ordered him to be sworn in as one of the most honourable privy council.

When his Royal Highness the Commander in Chief went to Holland, in the autumn of 1799, Sir William Fawcett was appointed first general on the staff in Great Britain, and acted in that capacity as commander in chief during his absence. This we believe gave great umbrage to some senior general officers then on the staff, who resigned on that occasion; the appointment was, however, a convincing argument, that the command was entrusted to one in every point of view adequate to the complex duty of it.

Sir William Fawcett, in the course of his long service, has held different governments, such as Pendennis Castle, and Tilbury Fort; he is at present governor of Chelsea Hospital, and although he is now upwards of eighty years of age, yet he is active and unremitting in his attention to the comforts of the old veterans under his inspection at Chelsea.

By his lady he has had several children, one of whom is a major-general in the army, and was on the Irish staff during the late war. He was also inspector of the recruiting service in that kingdom.

Our

Our military readers will no doubt be pleased with this short sketch of the life of a man, who by unremitting attention to the duties of his profession, has risen to the elevated station he now so deservedly fills. We at the same time trust, that so shining an example will act as a stimulus to the younger part of the army, and enable them to perceive the manifold advantages resulting from merit, industry, and good character.

DUKE OF QUEENSBOROUGH.

MUCH has been said of the degeneracy of the present times by moralists of all kinds, and we have been taught to believe, from the pulpit, the bar, and the bench, that modern manners, more especially so far as the higher ranks may be concerned, are infinitely less pure than those of a more distant date. Some, indeed, have gone such a length as to maintain, that England is at this present moment in the same deplorable situation as Rome at the period when Sallust, who was himself of the equestrian order, so forcibly exclaims against the dissipated men of quality of his own day.

"Inertissimi nobiles, in quibus, sicut in statua, præter nomen nihil erat additamenti."

On enquiry, however, into the pastimes and amusements of the last age, it will perhaps be discovered, that nearly as large a portion of vice, with a smaller degree of virtue then prevailed; and in reply to the charges of effeminacy and dissipation, some will doubtless be inclined to point to our army and navy, and

and remark, that a greater number of men of rank and fortune are at this moment engaged in the service of their country, both by sea and land, than at any former epoch.

During those semi-barbarous ages, indeed, when our ancient barons were accustomed to repair for a few weeks to the camp of the Monarch, "to do suit and service," in consequence of the tenure by which they held their lands, and spent the remainder of their lives, in hunting wild animals in the forests, or feasting in the gothic halls of their sturdy forefathers, our ancestors, perhaps, might have been more vigorous and robust; but the brutal custom of ebriety was far more prevalent, and a certain barbarous ferocity was painted on the countenance of the haughty chieftain, whom we always find in our old pictures surrounded by his obsequious followers, carrying a hooded hawk on his fist, and constantly followed by a leash of greyhounds.

But it is not of remote times that we are now about to treat, for although the subject of these memoirs may be said to have flourished during the middle of the preceding century, yet we have beheld him in the present enjoying a degree of health and vivacity, capable of creating the envy of many of our young sprigs of fashion.

William Douglas, Earl of March, Baron Douglas, Duke of Queensborough, knight of the order of the thistle, is descended from an illustrious Scottish family, several of his ancestors having intermarried with the blood royal of the Caledonian kings. Many of this high

race, have held high and honourable situations in the country which gave them birth, and since their residence in this, they have been noticed with particular attention by our sovereigns.

On the death of his father, the last earl, his lordship succeeded to the family estates, and became well known both in London and at Newmarket during almost fifty years, by the familiar name of *Lord March*. Being very young when he came to his title, and entering early into the world, it so happened that he formed a decided and almost unconquerable taste for the amusements of the turf. Indeed, the situation of a young nobleman, when he first starts in life, may be said to be peculiarly painful; for being brought up to no useful or honourable profession, and seldom accustomed, until maturer years have ripened his judgment, to assume the character of a senator, occupations of a more gay and volatile nature too frequently engross his attention, and not seldom ingulph his fortune. The late Duke of Bedford, one of the most amiable and high-minded men of his age, exhibits the most satisfactory proof that genius and abilities of the highest class are not exempt from failings of this kind, and that even an intercourse with grooms, and a certain degree of familiarity with the stable, does not always preclude the exercise of talents, or the practice of the most distinguished virtues.

While yet a boy, the Earl of March is reported to have acquired a certain species of distinction, by his gallantries in the capital, and his exploits at the race-ground, and he shone at once the meteor of the turf

and the drawing-room. A handsome person, of which he has been always particularly careful, joined to a splendid equipage, a title, and a fortune, all of which were heightened by manners highly polished, and conversation that seemed bewitching, ensured to him the smiles of the fair. But however he might occasionally cull and select from the parterre of beauty, the subject of these memoirs neither then nor since has collected a matrimonial bouquet for his own use. To one lady, indeed, who had been allured from the genial clime of Italy, by the blandishments of an operatic life, and the hopes of a splendid fortune, his lordship is said to have been long and warmly attached: this temporary connexion, indeed, gave birth to many jokes, as a celebrated man of wit* of that day was supposed to have enjoyed a species of copartnership in the smiles of the fair warbler.

It was customary among the Romans to scatter walnuts on the bridal day; but from this and all other connubial ceremonies his Grace, as has been already hinted, acquired a respite, by a life of celibacy: it has never been in his power, therefore, to cry out with Virgil:

"Mopse novas incide faces: tibi ducitur uxor.
"Sparge marite nuces; tibi deserit Hesperus Oetam."

"Thy bride comes forth, begin the festal rites!
"The walnuts strew! prepare the nuptial lights!
"O envied husband, now thy bliss is nigh!
"Behold for thee bright Hesper mounts the sky!"

But if this nobleman has never yet led a willing partner to the temple of Hymen, it is neither the fault

* The late George Selwyn, Esq.

of

of the beauties of the present nor of a former age, as many of our young ladies doubtless burn with the same ardour for wealth, splendour, and a ducal coronet, that their grandmothers and great grand-dames exhibited half a century ago. It must therefore be, and assuredly is, the particular fancy of this peer himself that has precluded a species of alliance, which would have ensured legitimate heirs to his large fortune and numerous titles.

In another line, to which we have also alluded before, this nobleman has been peculiarly fortunate. Although like an illustrious Duke, whose name has already been mentioned, he possessed a great attachment to the pleasures of the turf, yet he was never the prey of sharpers. Indeed, both of these noblemen may be supposed to have descended on the race-ground, completely armed, in the same manner that Minerva proceeded from the head of Jupiter, and of one of them in particular it might be said even while a boy:

> "In troth, thou'rt able to instruct grey hairs,
> "And teach the wily African."

But in order to prevent pillage, it became necessary for Lord March to place no reliance whatever upon jockies, to trust all to himself, and to depend solely upon his own ability and exertions. Two memorable achievements of this kind will never be forgotten by the disciples of the *whip*. The first occurred in 1756, when his lordship, properly accoutred in his velvet cap, red silken jacket, buckskin breeches, and long spurs, not only backed his own horse for a considerable sum,

but actually rode him. This contest, which took place on the race-ground at Newmarket, when the earl had attained his 26th year, was not, however, with an inferior either in blood or fortune, for his antagonist on this occasion was no less a person than a Scotch nobleman, who was addicted to the same sports as himself, and whose family, like his own, had been allied to the kings of his native country. This trial of skill, between the Achilles and the Hector of horsemen, of course attracted the notice of the public, and the ground was covered at an early hour with all the *fashionables* of that period. Lord March, thin, agile, and admirably qualified both by skill and make for exertion, was the victor of the day; to him was given the meed of fame, and the reward of activity, and no conqueror at the Olympic games ever received greater plaudits. The other contest was with an Irish gentleman, usually known by the appellation of Count O'Taafe, much celebrated about the middle of the last century for his bets and his oddities. In consequence of a conversation, at a sporting meeting, relative to *running against time*, it was suggested by the Earl of March, that it was possible for a carriage to be drawn with a degree of celerity hitherto unexampled, and almost incredible. Being desired to name his *maximum*, he undertook, provided he was allowed the choice of his ground, and a certain time for training, to draw a machine with four wheels not less than nineteen miles within the space of sixty minutes. As it had been already discovered that a race-horse might be urged to such a degree of speed, as to run over a mile

mile in a minute, this, which allowed about three to a carriage, did not appear so surprizing to the *knowing ones* for a short space of time; but the continuance of such a rapid motion during a whole hour staggered their belief, and many of them were completely outwitted.

As much depended on the lightness of the machine, application was made to an ingenious coach-maker (Wright) in Long-acre, who exhausted all the resources of his art to diminish the weight and friction as much as possible, and silk is said to have been recurred to in the construction of the harness, instead of leather. It then became necessary to select four blood-horses of approved speed, and, what was far more difficult to procure, two *honest* groomboys, (Errat and another) of small weight and approved skill, to manage them. The course at Newmarket having been pitched upon for the trial, a mile was marked out there, and although several horses are said to have been killed in *training*, yet it soon became evident, that the project was feasible.

On the arrival of the appointed day (Aug. 29, 1750), which was to decide bets to the amount of many thousand pounds, the noble and ignoble gamesters repaired to the spot pitched upon; the jockies mounted; the carriage, constructed partly of wood and partly of whalebone, was put in motion, and rushing on with a velocity almost rivaling the progress of sound, darted, within the appointed time, to the goal!

We are now to contemplate his Grace in a different capacity.

On the demise of George II. it became necessary

to form the establishment, and regulate the court of his grandson George III. The Princess Dowager of Wales had the selection of the noblemen who were destined to constitute the royal retinue, and we find the name of William Douglas, Earl of March, among the successful candidates, as one of the lords of the bed-chamber. This early notice seems to have affected the gratitude of the nobleman in question, and to have attached him during life to the interests of the court; for during a long period of years we do not recollect to have seen his name but once in opposition, and it is doubtful whether this term will apply even upon that occasion. The circumstance to which we allude, is the famous dispute relative to the regency, during which the Premier of that day found it his interest once more to assume popular grounds, and combat in the name of the nation. The parliament of Ireland, at this period, evinced a degree of zeal in behalf of the claims of the Prince of Wales, that was likely to be attended with the most important consequences; for a vote passed fully asserting and maintaining his Royal Highness's right, so far as the interests of that kingdom were concerned, On the other hand, the legislature of Great Britain was greatly divided. Some leading characters, actuated either by ambition, or stimulated, perhaps, by motives of a purer kind, were decidedly of opinion, that the Heir-apparent was entitled to the regency upon constitutional principles; while another party, personally attached to the Prince, supported him with all their power and influence. To the latter appertained the subject

subject of these memoirs, for he had lived during many years in habits of familiarity and friendship with his Royal Highness, and such an intercourse of good offices had grown up, that it became a point of honour to support his cause upon the present occasion. It is true, that he held an office about the person of his father, the emoluments of which amounted to a thousand pounds *per annum*; but this had never been considered by any English nobleman in the nature of a retaining fee, that obliged him to vote invariably with the minister of the day. In addition to this, he was induced to believe, from the assertions of a great law-authority, that in supporting the Prince he but supported the constitution of his native country, at the same time that he enforced the just rights of an amiable and accomplished Heir-apparent, who was endeared to him by so many ties. The result, however, proved far different from what had been expected, and the recovery of the King (at which no individual in the nation rejoiced more heartily than the nobleman in question) put an end to all altercation and dispute on this subject.

Anterior to this period, his Majesty had not always experienced a spirit of universal loyalty on the part of the nation. A supposed early bias to the councils of a favourite, the unlucky intervention of the American war, an imagined dislike to the great Earl o Chatham, and a personal attachment (since proved to be fallacious) to his more pliant son; these had contributed all together, to render the King less popular than he would otherwise have been. But no sooner

had their Sovereign been afflicted by the severest malady that ever fell to the lot of mortal, than the affection of his subjects seemed to flow in one general tide of loyalty towards the foot of the throne, while the bursts of rapture that succeeded his recovery appeared to convulse the whole kingdom.

It would have been assuredly noble in the minister of that day to have overlooked the unsuccessful efforts of those who had opposed him; but it was otherwise, and several peers experienced the most decided marks of displeasure. One in particular, who possessed a numerous family, and but a small fortune, lost a beneficial and advantageous situation, while the list of lords of the bed-chamber was scrutinised with a jealous eye; and the nobleman who now engages our attention, after a service of nearly thirty years, received his dismission. To one enjoying his immense wealth, a circumstance of this kind, at least in a *pecuniary point of view*, could not give a moment's uneasiness; and to the writer of this article, who has beheld him acting in what seemed to be a painful official situation, his dismission appears in the nature of a triumph, rather than of a disgrace. But there is no accounting for the feelings of others, and an apprenticeship at court might have, perhaps, rendered even the dismal red-brick and dark cloisters of St. James's dear to those accustomed to traverse the apartments of this gloomy and monastic pile. In such a case, an arrow-shot from the hand of royalty, although perhaps pointed by another, might inflict an Acteon-like wound:

"————hæret lateri lethalis arundo."

The.

The late Lord Bute, who is said to have been in no small degree partial to his countrymen, took the Earl of March under his patronage at an early period of life, and in addition to the situation already alluded to, exerted his influence in another point of view; for in the beginning of the present reign his lordship was elected one of the sixteen peers of Scotland, and continued to enjoy that honour in about six successive parliaments, until it became unnecessary, in consequence of the attainment of an English barony.

At length, on the demise of the late Duke of Queensborough, the Earl of March succeeded to that title, and at the same time obtained a very considerable addition to a fortune already ample, particularly a very valuable estate in Wiltshire. Other honours were also showered down upon his Grace, for he was elected a knight of the thistle; he also obtained a place of some emolument, that of Vice-admiral of Scotland, which he afterwards resigned in behalf of his old and intimate friend, as well as opposite neighbour, Lord William Gordon; and in 1786 he became an English peer, by the stile and title of Baron Douglas.

Many jokes have been levelled at his Grace, and some of the diurnal writers seem to have actually *lived* at his expence; yet he appears to have invariably exhibited a generous forbearance, and was perhaps one of the first to laugh at the bad puns and coarse allusions, which have taken place relative to him. But amidst all the party disputes of the times in which he has lived, and all the rancour and malevolence of contending

contending statesmen, we never recollect to have seen the name of the Duke of Queensborough called in question, except during the contest between the court and Mr. Wilkes. On this occasion his Grace's chaplain, burning with all the fervour of holy zeal, imprudently entered the lists with the author of the North Briton, when some of the many darts shot at the black gown of this officious priest, glanced against the ermined robes of his noble patron.

Notwithstanding the event that ensued, in consequence of the part taken by his Grace during the regency, he has frequented the levee and the drawing-room with the same assiduity and attention as before; thus exhibiting a marked and decided proof that he had not been induced to repair thither from interested motives, but is swayed now, as heretofore, by love and attachment to the Royal Family.

In point of fortune the Duke is affluent, for he not only possesses immense estates, but is said to keep a larger sum of ready money at his banker's* than any other nobleman or gentleman in the kingdom. He has been enabled to obtain a degree of wealth necessary for his independence, by means of a well regulated œconomy. He is not a churl, however, either in his table or his appearance, for no one entertains his friends with more hospitality, or exhibits a greater number of splendid carriages, well-dressed servants, or rich liveries, upon gala occasions. As to himself, notwithstanding the ravages of a recent illness, and the addition of seventy-three years of age, he still looks hale and hearty, and, when viewed from *behind*,

* The amiable and respectable Mr. Coutts, in the Strand.

seem

seems to the full as youthful and as alert as many of the beaus of the present age. His Grace appears almost every fine morning in front of his house in Piccadilly, sitting in a cane chair in the balcony, enjoying the sight of the passengers; and, if we are to credit report, not wholly insensible to female charms. He resides next door to the Earl of Yarmouth, whose lady was brought up under his immediate inspection, whom he has always cherished with a certain degree of paternal affection, and to whom, if we are to believe report, he intends to bequeath a considerable part of his fortune.

Formerly, when it was the fashion to dress in a splendid manner, his Grace complied with the custom of the day; but now that good sense begins to prevail, in respect to the decoration of the person, he conforms to the temper of the times, wisely preferring elegance to tawdry finery.

The Duke of Queensborough spends a great portion of the year in the metropolis, and indeed the view of the Green-park from his house can scarcely be excelled in point of mere scenery, by any portion of the kingdom. Having rendered his residence larger and more commodious, by a staircase to the basement story, he may be seen every forenoon either ascending from this, or descending by means of a little iron staircase, to reach his *vis-a-vis*, ascend his little black forester, or get into a single horse-chaise, which appears to have more of the *antico-moderno* than any thing appertaining to him. About five o'clock in the summer he generally drives in a sociable to his house at Richmond,

Richmond, which is built on the margin of the Thames, and so situated as to command a beautiful prospect both by land and water: there he spends the evening in festivity, enjoying the sound of music, surrounded by friends male and female, and not unmindful of the second line of the celebrated distich of Martial:

> "Balnea, Vina, Venus consumunt corpora nostra,
> "Sed vitam faciunt Balnea, Vina, Venus."

His Grace was formerly accustomed to make longer excursions, and to spend several weeks at a time at his seat at Amesbury, in the immediate neighbourhood of Stonehenge; it was once the residence of that Duchess of Queensborough who acquired no common share of celebrity by the patronage of Gay. He is ground-landlord of the town, and also lord of the manor. The house is a noble building, like all those built by Inigo Jones, who was the architect; and the present possessor must be allowed to have made great improvements in the grounds, having not only enlarged them, but planted an adjoining hill, at the foot of which the Avon beautifully meanders, after passing through the gardens. Nor ought it to be omitted, that he has generously appropriated this charming seat to the victims of devotion, and thus proved by a noble action, that if his Grace of Queensborough has not zeal sufficient to found a nunnery, he has at least munificence and generosity enough to protect a few antiquated devotees, who consider seclusion from mankind as absolutely necessary for their salvation!

Before we conclude this article, it may not be improper

proper to remark that the Duke of Queensborough possesses a very fine taste for music. He does not, indeed, we believe, like his friend, the late Lord Kellie, who attained an unrivalled excellence on the violin, delight in instrumental, but we know that he is an eminent judge of vocal performance, and has attained such a facility in the science, as to be able to *hum* the songs and accompaniments of any new opera in his way home from the Haymarket. He himself has also been known occasionally to accompany a lady on the harpsichord, and even to exhilarate the festivity of a convivial meeting by a *solo* of his own.

HER SERENE HIGHNESS

THE MARGRAVINE OF ANSPACH.

ENGLAND has produced many ladies distinguished for their exquisite beauty, rare virtues, and excellent good sense; but until the reign of Elizabeth few were noted either for their learning or their genius. Whatever may be said of modern manners, it must be at least acknowledged that modern education has been peculiarly favourable to the disclosure of female talent, and that in point of mental accomplishments, the fair of the present day far excel those of any former epoch.

The Margravine of Anspach, born in the month of December 1750, is the daughter of the late Earl of Berkeley, and sister of the present earl. At an early period of life this lady cultivated the Muses, without

 forgetting

forgetting the Graces; and by a rare union of beauty, with a taste for, and even an excellence in, the kindred arts of poetry and music, became one of the most admired women of her time; nor were other pursuits forgotten, for she attained a knowledge and facility in the French and Italian languages, which have proved highly serviceable.

Among those who aspired to her hand was the Hon. William Craven, and as his pretensions both in respect to fortune and title were high, Lady Berkeley deemed him the most proper suitor; this young and gay couple accordingly sacrificed at the altar of Hymen, in 1767, at a period when our heroine was only entering into the seventeenth year of her age, and was then, like the rose-bud, but just disclosing her "opening sweets." Some of her early productions have been preserved by the family, but none of them appeared in print until her marriage; a few months after which period a copy of "Verses on dreaming that she saw her Heart at her Feet," was printed in the periodical productions of that day.*

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* VERSES, BY LADY CRAVEN,

On dreaming she saw her Heart at her Feet.

"When Nature, tir'd with thought, was sunk to rest,
And all my senses were by sleep possest;
Sweet sleep, that soft and balmy comfort brings
Alike to beggars and despotic kings;
I dreamt of peace I never felt before,
I dreamt my heart was lying on the floor.
I view'd it, strange to tell! with joyful eyes,
And, stranger still, without the least surprize!

Elated

The accession of Mr. Craven to the title and estates of his family, produced a species of living but little friendly to the cultivation of female talents; for it is rather in the rustic cot than the gilded palace that Genius loves to dwell. An accidental acquaintance, however, with the late Rev. Mr. Jenner, who, like her ladyship, by means of a happy coincidence, excelled both in poetry and music, induced her to resume the lyre, after she had been twice a mother.

Elated with the sight I smiling sat,
Exulting o'er the victim at my feet;
But soon with words of anguish thus addrest
This painful, sweet disturber of my breast·
"Say, busy, lively, hoping, trembling thing,
What new disaster hast thou now to bring,
To torture with thy fears my tender frame,
Who must for all her ills thee only blame?
Speak now, and tell me why, ungrateful guest,
For ten years past hast thou deny'd me rest?
That in my bosom thou wast nurs'd, 'tis true,
And with my life and with my stature grew.
At first so small were all thy wants, that I
Vainly imagin'd I could ne'er deny
Whate'er thy fancy ask'd. Alas! but now
I find thy wants my ev'ry sense outgrow;
And ever having, ever wanting more,
A power to please, to give, or to adore.
Say, why, like other hearts, thou dost not bear,
With callous apathy, each worldly care?
Why dost thou shrink at Envy's horrid cries?
In thee Compassion Hatred's place supplies.
Why not with malice treat malicious men?
Why ever pity, where thou should'st condemn?
Why, at the hearing of a dismal tale,
Dost thou with sorrow turn my beauty pale?

Why,

This gentleman penned a sonnet upon this occasion, beginning with the following stanza:

"I saw fair Craven sit in state,
To smooth her verse, and form her air,
The Graces at her toilet wait,
The Muses hover'd round her chair, &c."

The return for this was of a sad and melancholy nature, for her ladyship was afterwards destined to fulfil the mournful office of paying the last duties of friendship to his memory, and closing his obsequies by means of an epitaph, now engraved on his tomb. A little before this she had addressed to him a fable, the principal subject of which was to ridicule some of the

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Why, when distress in any shape appears,
Dost thou dissolve my very soul in tears?
Why in thy secret folds is Friendship bred?
In other hearts its very name is dead.
Why, if keen Wit, and learned Sense, draw nigh,
Dost thou with emulation beat so high?
And while approving, wish to be approv'd,
And when you love, wish more to be belov'd?
Why not, in cold indifference ever clad,
Alike unmov'd, regard the good and bad?
Why dost thou waste my youthful bloom with care,
And sacrifice myself, that I may share
Distress in others? Why wilt thou adorn
Their days with roses, and leave me a thorn."
But here I saw it heave a heavy sigh,
And thus in sweetest sounds it did reply:
"Ah! cease, ELIZA, cease thy speech unjust;
Thy heart has e'er fulfill'd its sacred trust,
And ever will its tender mansion serve;
Nor can it from thee this reproach deserve:
Against my dictates murm'ring have I found,
Which thus has laid me bleeding on the ground."

novi-

novi-homines, or occasional upstarts from the east, under a character borrowed from one of the Asiatic coins:

"Sir John Rupee from India sails,
Richer than any King of Wales,
Enormous diamonds, pearls untold,
With many a pound of powdered gold,
Enrich his store, &c."

An endeavour was made at the same time to satyrize the facility with which the royal patent was then yielded to the solicitations of wealth:

"Soon shall these shining trifles bear
A whisper to my Sovereign's ear,
That John Rupee would be a peer."

After having seven children by, and living fourteen years with, Lord Craven, her ladyship was induced, in consequence of many domestic disagreements, which it would be unnecessary to repeat here,* to leave Eng-

* "The greatest part of the public has my permission (says her ladyship, in the dedication of her Travels to the Margrave of Brandebourg) to doze over the following sheets, as I expose them to the malice of my enemies without reserve, merely to oblige many of my friends: who knowing I had taken a long and extraordinary journey, have desired me to give them some account of it. The best I could give, and in the most agreeable manner to myself, was by transcribing part of my letters to you; in which, though in a cursory manner, I have given you a faithful picture of what I have seen. Beside curiosity, my friends will in these letters see, at least for some time, where the real Lady Craven has been, and where she is to be found—it having been a practice for some years past for a Birmingham coin of myself to pass in most of the inns of France, Switzerland, and England, for the wife of my husband—my arms and coronet sometimes supporting, in some measure, this insolent deception; by which, probably, I may have been seen to behave improperly. I think it my duty to aver, upon my ho-

land, and reside for some time on the continent. Accordingly, in 1781, she repaired thither, and after visiting several parts of France, at length reached Anspach, where his Serene Highness Christian-Frederick-Charles-Alexander, of the royal house of Brandebourg, and nephew to Frederick the Great, then kept his court.

During her stay in this capital, her ladyship cultivated an acquaintance and intimacy with the reigning Prince, the Baroness de Schelling, the Countess de Platen, and, in short, with all the first people to be met with at a German residence of the second order. There too she translated and composed dramas, appeared on the stage along with several of the nobility, and exhibited such a versatility and fecundity of talents, as astonished that part of Europe. Her ladyship's *pin-money** enabled her to move in the first style of elegance on the continent; and in point of dress, equipage, and manner of living, the English peeress was excelled by none of the countesses "of the antient family of the Kinkyervankotsdars and Prakengotchderns."

In 1785 we find her ladyship at Paris, in company with the sister of the Margrave, and at the same time

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nour, that it has frequently happened to me, travelling with my sweet child, to find a landlady, who has shewn a particular desire of serving me in the most menial offices, with tears in her eyes; and upon my asking the reason, in the honest indignation of her heart, she said she had been imposed upon, at such a time, by a traveller who called herself by my name."

* We understand that it amounted to sixteen hundred pounds *per annum*.

keeping

keeping up a constant correspondence with his Serene Highness, animated on one side by female talents of no ordinary lustre, and kept alive on the other by increasing attachment and respect: at that period her ladyship was accustomed to address by the appellation of brother this personage, whom she has since recognized by the more endearing name of husband.

After enjoying all the pleasures of the gay capital of France, Lady Craven determined to take a wider range than female travellers have been accustomed to since the days of the adventurous and accomplished Lady Mary Wortley Montague; it was also resolved to visit some of the scenes beheld and described by that lady on the shores of the Hellespont, for a journey to Constantinople was now actually determined upon, and that through the Crimea, a country little known to English *tourists*, but which had lately become a subject of conversation in consequence of the victotories of the Imperial Catharine.

Every thing being arranged, our fair countrywoman entered her travelling carriage, in which was placed a French *femme de chambre*, together with an English harp; and as it was now in the middle of June, they set out at three o'clock in the morning on purpose to avoid the heat. As the road lay through Touraine, which the inhabitants consider as the fairest portion of Europe,* the scene appeared delightful, and a thousand beautiful objects presented themselves in such a manner as to delight the eye,

* They are accustomed to term it by way of pre-eminence, "*Le Jardin de la France.*"

and keep alive the attention. At the post beyond Blois, while the horses were changing, Lady Craven had an opportunity of exerting her beneficence, in favour of a poor little boy of the name of Cassius, who wanted to be conveyed to Rochelle, and informed her in the style prevalent during the existence of the monarchy, "that he could not earn a livelihood by service, because his forefathers had been noble.*"

As a *led horse* had been brought from England, the neighbouring meadows of Tours afforded an excellent opportunity for enjoying a ride; Lady Craven accordingly galloped up the mall, a very fine walk shaded by venerable elms, which had by some accident escaped the scisssars of the *tondeur*, an operation employed at that period in France, on purpose to cut the trees into certain settled forms established by fashion, in express violation of the laws of Nature; in short, the shaving of the beard and the shearing of the avenues had become equally common, and were nearly as frequently performed.

In order to avoid a circuitous route of some leagues a cross road was chosen, through Cormery, Loches, Buxancely, la Chatre, and Roanne; but the lanes were so narrow, that the carriage was scratched by the hedges, and continually exposed to the danger of being overturned. However, the view of the mountains of Auvergne exhibited the most pleasing prospects, while the novelty of the scene seemed to render the fatigue of the journey supportable.

* Je ne saurais être domestique, parceque mes pères étaient gentilhommes.

On

On approaching Lyons a great difference was visible in the climate; the landscape too began to be studded with small conical hills, around the sides of which the country girls with their straw hats on their heads, and their distaffs in their hands, were seen to wind gently along, conducting their goats, and spinning at the same time. An ancient species of plough drawn by a pair of oxen, combined with the surrounding objects, and appeared so perfectly in unison with the ideas before inspired, as to render the scene at once pastoral and romantic.

Having hired a boat to carry her down the Rhone to Avignon, our adventurous traveller was borne along the stream with a degree of rapidity that does not appear to have been unpleasing. The shores on each side were interspersed with vineyards and castles, and from one of the latter*, which is peculiarly high and elevated, no less than three kingdoms and seven provinces might be seen at once. The heat at times was indeed oppressive, for here is situated the *côte rotie*, or to speak literally, the *roasted coast*, where the grapes, in consequence of being broiled in the sun, produce a liquor of superior flavour; but a large carriage, and good blinds, presented an impenetrable shade on one side, while by letting down the glass on the other, the ever-varying prospect of water, hills, precipices, and chateaus, presented themselves in rapid succession.

Having staid but a few hours at Avignon, which no longer contains any thing worthy the curiosity of

* Montelimart.

a traveller, Lady Craven took a French post-chaise and followed the windings of the Sorgue, until the road was too narrow for the carriage to proceed. The Countess then walked along a serpentine path, around the immense rocky mountains on the left, until a cavern "pretty much in the shape of those which lions come out of in an opera," whence flows the river, presented itself to the view.

The following is a description of the surrounding country, by the pen of our fair author:

"Monstrous rocks rise over and on each side of the craggy arch; these appear to bend forward to meet or crush the curious. Whichever way I turned my eyes, I saw gigantic and fantastic shapes, which Nature seems to have placed there to astonish the gazer with a mixture of the melancholy, terrible and cheerful; for the clearness and rapidity of the river makes it a lively object, and where there is a flat place on the banks, though not above a few feet in circumference, the peasants have planted trees, or sowed gardens —— you lift up your eyes, and see the most perfect contrasts to them —— the birds, which hovered towards the upper parts of the rocks, were scarcely perceptible.

"In looking into the cavern, it appears horrible and gloomy; I could almost have fancied the river ran thus fast, as if rejoicing to quit the mansion from whence it sprung. No wonder Petrarch's song was plaintive, if he courted his muse with this scene perpetually before his eyes; love and all his laughing train must fly the human imagination, where Nature displays her features in this majestic and terrible style, and I was very glad to find so good an excuse as this situation for Petrarch's eternal complaint —— till now I was puzzled to guess how a man of his sense could pass the greatest part of his life in eternizing a lady's contempt of a faithful passion. But I now believe there was no Laura; or if there existed one, he found in either case his imagination particularly turned to poetry, and that of the melancholy kind; in this, probably his summer's residence, I who you know ——

and

and have as playful a muse, as ever smiled upon mortal, sat examining the astonishing picture before me with a silent reverential sort of admiration; and should have remained there till night if I had not been informed that it grew very late, and I must see the pictures of Petrarch and Laura in the chateau of the Marquis de Chamont, which is a miserable house a few steps from the *fontaine*. The pictures are very modern, probably as like me as the persons they were drawn for.

"I returned (adds her ladyship) to Lille, and eat craw-fish and trout, the most excellent that I ever tasted, which abound in the Sorgue. I saw many plantations of canes, which I wonder we do not cultivate in our water-meadows in England; and I bought very excellent melons out of the fields for five sols a piece. A country flowing with wine and oil, and where figs and melons are to be gathered on each side of the public road, may be a very fine thing; but a want of verdure and fine trees gives it a most uncomfortable and ungentleman-like appearance. When I compared England and the scene before me together, I could almost have fancied I had the *maladie du pays* upon me —— so much did I wish to see a green carpet under my feet, and some of our beautiful foliage over my head.

"I forgot to observe, that while I was changing horses at Lille, I talked to Captain B * * *, a sailor who lives with his wife and two children in that neighbourhood. He very civilly invited me to pass the evening at his house, talked about my brother G—(eorge), and informed me that the source of the Sorgue was at this time remarkably low, and I found by the marks the torrent had left on the rocks when at its height, that it must be at least forty feet lower than when it takes its winter course: as I saw it, it creeps humbly from the cavern under part of the rock, and becomes rapid as it finds its level and forms a river; whereas when it is in all its glory, it tumbles over the rock a wild cascade, which must add considerably to its terrific beauties.

"I was informed by the inhabitants of Vaucluse that people who are tired of life fling themselves into the cavern, where the water is unfathomable; upon this information I asked if bodies were often found there; I was answered in the affirmative, and that they were chiefly the bodies of priests."

We now find Lady Craven at Marseilles during the early part of August, when the weather became so intensely hot that she was rowed out twice a day to sea, on purpose to enjoy the breezes; she also rode occasionally on horseback to a chapel situate on a hill, called *Notre Dame de Consolation*, on purpose to converse with a hermit called Laurent. This fanatic pretended, by "his medical knowledge and the assistance of the blessed Virgin," to cure the king's evil, and our traveller added not a little to his stock of information, by presenting him with several *valuable* receipts, all given impromptu, among which was a recommendation to bathe his patients in aqua-fortis, as the most sovereign remedy for this shocking distemper!

After passing from Toulon to Hieres, along hedges composed of myrtle, pomgranate, and wild vines, while the neighbouring gardens exhibited groves of lofty orange trees, the Countess remained some days at the latter place, and there avenged an affront received at the former*, by writing a parody on a French pamphlet relative to the siege of Gibraltar†, of which a specimen shall be here given.

The following is the mock invocation:

"Sweet Muse, who hast with fragrant roses spread
The thorny path of life which mortals tread;
Who hast, with Fancy's gayest varied flowers,
Bedeck'd with many a wreath my youthful hours;

* While at Toulon, her ladyship was refused permission to visit the dock-yards.

† L'Histoire du Siége de Gibraltar, par un Officier de l'Armée Française. Imprimée a Cadix, l'an 1783.

If

If e'er and oft thy song beguiled my care,
Smiling maliciously, O Muse appear—
Apollo form'd this sea-girt orange-grove,
Fit haunt for playful Muse or happy love;
Here myrtle blossoms gracefully entwine,
And mix their perfume with th' encircling vine,—
And this a youthful poet might suppose,
The spot where Venus from the waves arose.—
O Muse, approach, with all thy mirth and fire,
While Momus, laughing, shall now string my lyre,
That I may briefly sing in numbers gay,
What I have heard a prosing Frenchman say;
His country's disappointment to assuage,
He tells a tale, of fam'd Gibraltar's siege;
A Tom-Thumb story of this siege relates—
Of Gallic fame, heroic Gallic feats;
Of Crillon's Duke and all his conquer'd men,
Who stalk'd out with him—to stalk home again.—
My lyre be strong, for cords per chance may break,
When Frenchmen of their arms and valour speak;
While wond'ring worlds of Elliot's justly ring;
Thus spoke the grieving Frenchman, thus I sing:

"Seven thousand men, and eke York-town,
Artillery immense our own,
Lately all taken by my nation,
Has added to its reputation—
The conquest of St. Kitt's adorn'd,
Names henceforth never to be scorn'd
The names of (as new worlds can shew)
Washington, Bouillé, Rochambeau,
Bussy, with our friend Hyder Kan
Suffrein, unconquerable man,
Promis'd in Asia, greater feats,
Than e'er was sung in Paris streets, &c.

"But to these splendors, sad reverse!
Unpleasant news our joys disperse;
For Rodney's vict'ry reach'd our ears,
Which chang'd our vap'ring into tears,
Our fêtes to mourning, hopes to fears.

"Since

" Since the year twenty-seven had Spain
Thought of Gibraltar's rock in vain ;
In awful silence long had star'd,
But to attack it never dar'd ;
Till Crillon* offer'd gold and pensions,
For such unheard-of new inventions,
As might this sturdy rock invade.
For this full many a scheme was laid :
The house of Bourbon squadrons mann'd,
Collected armies, batt'ries plann'd ;
These preparations, vast and great,
All Europe knew, were to defeat
Brave Elliot in his snug retreat.

" D'Arçon of floating batt'ries spoke ;
Great Crillon hasten'd to St. Roque,
To take upon him the command
Of th' army both by sea and land.
Four hundred workmen under D'Arçon,
(Whose batteries we made a farce on,)
To finish them, which gave delight
To Monseigneur D'Artois, who came
With laurels to bedeck his name.

" Now martial feats his senses warming,
And warlike stores around him swarming;
Vessels of ev'ry name and size,
In numbers dance before his eyes :
Now to the lines the French troops march,
Their queues so tied, their curls so starch,
Heav'ns how the Spaniards stood aghast !
(Of soldiers they, the least, and last,)
In flocks they came our men to see,
And, by their curiosity.

* A paper-merchant offered the Duke an immense kite, at the *tail* of which a man in a sack was to ascend and to pour aquafortis over the officers and soldiers on the parade. I am told that the Duke had the kite sent over the rock——luckily for the inventor, who had put himself into the sack, the string broke just as he was lifted off the ground.

Prov'd

Prov'd how imperfect was their notion—
Of music sweet, and rapid motion—
Our troops the Spaniards' wonder rais'd—
So on Columbus Indians gaz'd!"

After mentioning the particulars of the memorable defeat before Gibraltar, the French author's remark that the miscarriage did not proceed from English valour, but the invention of red-hot shot, and the new mode of sheathing the navy, is sarcastically quoted and enlarged upon.

"By copper and by coals alone,
Their martial courage was made known;
And if on ELLIOT's sacred name,
With that of honour be the same—
To wond'ring ages yet to come,
And we were sent like children home.—
The coals that made his bullets red,
Deserve the wreaths that crown his head—
And copper-bottomed ships I ween,
That scud along so neat, so clean—
Secure the active British foe,
And not the valour of their HOWE—
Dear friends, like me, treat with disdain
Their glory, and forget your pain;
Hate honour from your haughty souls
That's gain'd by copper, and by coals."

After penning these lines, which have now lost much of their original *point*, in consequence of the lapse of time, and the intervention of still greater events, Lady Craven left Hieres, but not until she had tasted of the red mullet and the John-dory, here called St. Peter's fish,* as well as rambled over the orange-groves, which enjoy perpetual verdure in a climate where the rain seldom falls.

* Poisson de St. Pierre.

Having

Having hired a felucca, or long narrow boat, with three shoulder-of-mutton sails and ten oars, at Antibes, it was proposed to sail in this vessel to Leghorn, notwithstanding the imminent danger of captivity, for the Barbary corsairs, particularly the Algerines, captured all the shipping on the coast of Italy, those of Spain only excepted. Having landed "at Monaco, built upon a rock, which neither sows nor reaps, but lives on others property," our curious traveller examined the palace, which, as well as its prince, is supported by a tribute on the vessels that pass along the coast, but beheld nothing capable of gratifying a well-informed Englishwoman, for a modern cornish in stucco, from a design of Adams, was here exhibited as a matter of wonder. "The room the poor Duke of York died in (says her ladyship) is one of the most melancholy I ever saw; the very bed had a gloomy look; but indeed all the apartments are dark and dismal;" and, to complete the whole, it is hinted that the prince himself, although a sovereign, "had become a tool of the court of Versailles."

Notwithstanding it was now the middle of September, yet this benignant climate did not exhibit the least appearance of autumn; on the contrary, a genial warmth was diffused throughout the atmosphere, and the view of a picturesque coast, together with the songs of the sailors, served to pass away the fleeting hours. However, as an Italian felucca is far inferior to an English yacht, in point of accommodation, and it is difficult, if not impossible, to sleep in one without "feeling all alive;" even this situation, delightful

delightful as it may appear, was attended with some few inconveniences. Yet these were considerably lessened by the foresight and wealth of our accomplished countrywoman, who had provided a travelling bed, supported by iron feet, placed in tin cups full of water, and a *zinzaliere*, or gauze curtain, without an opening, which, by enveloping the whole, interdicted the approach of either creeping or winged animals, and thus precluded the hostilities of gnats, and every other sort of biting or stinging vermin.

Genoa presented a most superb *coup d'œil*, and afforded no small gratification, on account of the splendour of its palaces; when we learn that the buildings are so solid as to last seven or eight hundred years, while they are at the same time so expensive, that the alteration of a single staircase in one of them cost twenty thousand pounds, one is lost in wonder at the immense wealth formerly possessed by the citizens of this once flourishing republic; but the want of uniformity and order was calculated to disgust the simplicity of English taste, in which cleanliness ever constitutes the first charm. The splendour of a habitation built of marble, and adorned with valuable pictures, was strangely contrasted with the mean and paltry finery of the possessors; while the gilded carriage and rich liveries were oddly matched with a pair of "dog-horses," and a harness that a hackney-coachman would spurn at in London.

At Pisa, the *leaning tower* excited the attention and the criticism of our traveller; at Lucca, the motto*

* Libertas.

over

over the gates seemed to prove that liberty and prosperity were the same, as the people appeared both opulent and happy: the wealth of these republicans was communicated even to their devotions, for the *Holy Virgin* is here shod with golden slippers, one of which she generously presented to a senator who was praying at her shrine for more wealth; but as the priests refused credit to any miracle in which they themselves were not concerned, they denied their assent to the generous donation, and trial, conviction, and execution immediately ensued.

But nothing in this neighbourhood appeared such a curiosity as Lady Craven herself; for as the Italian females ride exactly in the same manner as the men, one mounted on a side-saddle became an object of wonder. The peasants who passed on the right side were accustomed to imagine that it was only a person with one leg, who could think of sitting in such an uncomfortable way, and frequently expressed at once their pity and their astonishment, by exclaiming, "*Poverina—Jesu Maria—povera—una gambia—!*"

At Florence, whether her ladyship had repaired in her carriage on account of unfavourable winds, Lady Craven appears to have received no common portion of delight from the contemplation of those delightful pictures and paintings, which have since been transported by the fortune of war to another climate, and another country. The *moon* here also seems to have engaged her particular attention, and from its superior brilliancy, appears nearly to have realized the satirical remark of M. de Caraccioli:

"Que la lune de Naples valait bien le soleil d'Angleterre."

The

The charming ride in a wood belonging to the Grand Duke, called the Cashins, where the ladies either walk or take the air in their *hiroches*, the enormous firs, the ducal dairy, "where cream, milk, and butter are sold at a royal price indeed," the clock in the *Piazza di Gran Duca*, the figures of which being painted on a transparent ground, exhibit the hours to the traveller at all times in the night, engaged the attention of our traveller.

Finding, however, that her brother, the Earl of Berkeley, would not spend the winter at Florence, as had been intended, she left that city with a determination to contemplate "courts and people, which but few women have seen," and her course now lay through Venice, Vienna, Warsaw, and Petersburgh.

After supping at Ferrara, on celery, in consequence of the etiquette of Italian cookery, by which cinnamon becomes indispensably necessary in every dish, unless the traveller prefers woodcocks stewed in sugar, or chickens roasted until they are as hard and as dry as logwood, our fair countrywoman embarked at Francolino, and was rowed down the Po Notwithstanding it was now the 19th of November, the passage proved delightful, not only along the above river, but also through the canals that form a junction with the Brenta, and lead to those surrounding that city, which, in the inflated language of the Abbé Coyer, is built by the gods:* we are told, however, that "the houses are in the water, and look dirty and uncomfortable on the outside," and that "the fine palaces have most of

* Rome est bâtie par les hommes ; mais Venise par les dieux.

them

them above half their windows shut up by dirty shutters not painted." The gondolas too, about which so much has been said by others, appeared at first like "swimming coffins," and added to "the dismal scene;" but a further acquaintance reconciled all these incongruities, and Venice was at length beheld not only without dislike, but even with pleasure.

From this city Lady Craven repaired to Vienna by a new route, through Trevisa, Cornegliano, San Daniello Pontiebba, and Klagenfurt, over precipices, and across torrents, which would have affrighted many of her countrymen; this journey was performed in a carriage, that sometimes required ten horses and four oxen to draw it.

Here the presentation to the Emperor Joseph II. some splendid dinners at Prince Kaunitz's, at which were served up wild boar and venison, *gelinottes*, and *coqs de bruyeres*, Bohemian pheasants, and craw-fish as big as lobsters, together with walking and riding in the park, called the *Prater*, to which the Danube serves as a fence, contributed to divert a few weeks residence in the capital of the Austrian dominions.

Towards the beginning of January 1786 the subject of these memoirs bid adieu to this gay city, and proceeded first to Cracow, and then to Warsaw, the capital of unhappy Poland; but this journey was not unaccompanied by accidents, for the roads were so narrow, that the wheel of the coach hung more than once upon a fir-tree, and menaced inevitable destruction. By good fortune, however, no damage ensued, and these mischances were soon forgotten in the gay circle

circle of the city of Warsaw, particularly in the company of King Stanislaus, who is represented as resembling the Duke of Marlborough in the face, and conversing in the English language with uncommon facility, and even elegance. While here, her ladyship visited the best company, and in consequence of a letter of introduction from the Prince de Gallitzin, was waited upon immediately after her arrival by the Russian minister, the Count de Stackelberg, in whose coach and six, accompanied by a crowd of footmen behind, and an equerry at each window, she returned all her visits

A dead flat, with every view terminated by forests of dingy pines, disagreeable roads, dirty villages: such was the gloomy and disagreeable scene between the capitals of Poland and of Russia. When arrived in the latter, it was found necessary, according to the established *etiquette*, to have a coachman and three postillions, together with six horses, on purpose to gallop about in.

Catherine II. instead of granting a public audience, was pleased to receive her ladyship at the Hermitage, where she kept her court every evening; and we are told, "that nothing could be more magnificent than the appearance the Empress made when she entered the drawing-room:" "she has (adds our traveller) a lively and good-humoured look—and her politeness to me was very great; but I could plainly perceive that some one had told her I was not an English woman, for she asked me if I was not of a Scotch family." Being invited to dine with the Prince de Potemkin,

then the reigning favourite of this princess, we are presented with the following account of the immense palace then building by him, as well as of the entertainment given upon this occasion :

" The only room finished is too particular not to be described; it is three hundred feet in length, and on the side opposite the windows there are two rows of stone pillars, whose height and breadth are proportioned to the immense size of the room, which is an oblong square, in the centre of which, on the side where the windows are, it is formed into a semicircle, or what we call a bow; which bow forms another large space independent of, though in the room; this space was laid out by his English gardener into a shrubbery, with borders of flowers, hyacinths, and narcissus; myrtles, orange-trees, &c. were in plenty.

" We were seven or eight ladies, and as many men; immense stoves, concealed by pillars, were heated in order to make such a climate supportable; but I came home, quite ill with cold. It was there I heard that extraordinary music performed by men and boys, each blowing a straight horn adapted to his size; sixty-five of these musicians performed a very harmonious melody, something like an immense organ. The music, the room, the cold, all was gigantic. I sat by Prince Potemkin at dinner, but except asking me to eat and drink, I cannot say I heard the sound of his voice; so am unable to tell you what kind of *esprit* has raised him to the fortunes and the dignities he possesses, or what occasions Mr. S— and others to call him a sensible man.——"

Notwithstanding Lady Craven learned in this city that the air of the Crimea was unwholesome, the waters poisonous, and the journey dangerous, yet she set out for that country towards the end of February, and with her attendants reached Moscow, in the kabitkas, or wretched cradle-like carriages of the country, which are drawn upon sledges, after having been twice overturned. Having visited the field of battle at Pultowa, memorable for the defeat of Charles XII. and the exploits

ploits of Peter the Great, Lady Craven proceeded through Krementchouck, to Cherson, situate upon the Dneiper, called by the ancients the Boristhenes, which empties its immense volume of waters into the Black Sea. Having proceeded down the river, and landed on the opposite shore, a carriage and horses belonging to a major who commanded the post, conveyed our fair and enterprising countrywoman to his house, where a great dinner was prepared; and among other things fresh butter made of buffalo's milk. Thence she crossed the plains of Perekop, on which nothing but a long coarse grass grows; the whole country resembles a desert, and except where the post horses are procured, not a tree or habitation is to be seen. There were bustards, however, in plenty, and millions of a bird about the size of a pigeon, together with droves of a small goose, cinnamon colour, brown, and white.

All the civilities of the governor, could not detain Lady Craven in the capital of the Crimea; she therefore departed in her *kabitka*, and as a tin-kettle in a basket behind held her tea-equipage, occasionally stopt at the Tartarian villages, either to enjoy this refreshment, or that of new milk, with a little chocolate dissolved in it. But on the road to Karasbayer, the nephew and son of a Russian general overtook the cavalcade, and from that moment a guard of between twenty and thirty Cossack horsemen surrounded the carriage. These were soon after so much delighted with Lady Craven's style of riding, that one of the

chiefs of that nation informed her, by way of compliment, "that she was worthy of being a Cossack."

This was followed by an invitation to a dinner, exactly suitable to the country and the host, for it consisted of a half-grown pig roasted whole, a half-grown sheep dressed whole likewise, and an immense tureen of curdled milk; while, to complete the repast, the old warrior wished his guest to have drunk of thirty sorts of wine from the borders of the Don. This entertainment was succeeded by a desert strictly analogous; it consisted of a mock battle between two parties of Cossacks, after which, two Calmucks, the ugliest, fiercest looking men imaginable, exhibited their skill in archery, and so dexterous were they with their bows and arrows, that one killed a goose at an hundred paces, while the other broke an egg at fifty.

After experiencing much hospitality from the governor of Sevastipole, our enterprising countrywoman embarked on board a thirty-six gun frigate, under the disguise of a merchant ship, which had been fitted out on purpose for, and was waiting her arrival; thus taking leave of the Crimea, of which the fine turf, the excellent orchards, the genial climate, and the pink flowers of the peach, that spreads itself like net-work over the ground, excited her admiration. Patriotism, or a love of her native country, seemed also at times to be predominant in her ladyship's bosom, for she earnestly desired to appropriate the produce of so charming a spot, to the inhabitants of that land which gave her birth:

"Yes,

"Yes, I wish (exclaims her ladyship), to see a colony of honest English families here; establishing manufactures such as England produces, and returning the produce of this country to ours; establishing a fair and free trade from hence, and teaching industry and honesty to the insidious but persecuted Greeks, in their islands; waking the indolent Turk from his gilded slumbers, and carrying fair liberty in her swelling sails, as she passes through the Archipelago and the Mediterranean, to our dangerous (happily for us our dangerous) coast. This is no visionary or poetical figure; it is the honest wish of one who considers mankind as one family, and looking upon them as such, wishes them to be united for the common good; excluding from nations all selfish and monopolizing views."

A voyage of seven days at length brought the Russian vessel to the entrance of the canal; but as the Greek pilot was drunk and incapable of speaking, much less of steering the ship, the officers were directed by a small pocket map of the Black Sea, and Lady Craven at length reached Constantinople, after contemplating from a distance the beautiful shores of the Bosphorus, interspersed with rocks, verdure, ancient castles, modern kiosks, minarets, and large plantain trees. M. de Bulgakow, the Russian ambassador, claimed our accomplished countrywoman as his guest, but M. de Choiseul, the French ambassador, insisted on her lodging at the *Palais de France*, and succeeded in his suit. A superb suite of apartments, looking towards the canal, a sedan chair richly gilded and varnished, carried by no fewer than six Turks, preceded by two janissaries with high fur caps on, pleasure boats carved and embellished in a light and beautiful manner, agreeable company, social intercourse: such were the entertainments, provided

for her ladyship within the walls of the modern Byzantium.

In consequence of a special permission, obtained through diplomatic interest, Lady Craven had leave to visit seventy five mosques; the dome of St. Sophia delighted her extremely, but as some of the finest pillars are either completely inverted, or have Turkish capitals, and neither the beautiful statues belonging to Pagan times, nor the costly ornaments of modern Rome, are to be seen, and "some shabby lamps, hung irregularly," constituted the sole decorations, the scene afforded less delight, perhaps, than had been expected. Among other sights, our fair traveller beheld the Sultan ride a few paces in state from the gate of the seraglio to the door of the mosque, preceded by a double row of janissaries. He was mounted on a grey horse led by two persons, and followed by his son, a sickly looking child, sitting on a milk-white horse; over his head was held a green umbrella, the ribs of which were set with diamonds; and we learn, that while the Porte delays erecting batteries at the most important posts, under pretext of wanting treasure, for the defence of the empire, the jewellers cannot find diamonds enough to supply the demands of the Harem, for which they are paid in ready money: but it is the quantity and not the quality of this stone which they prize, for scarcely any other than rose diamonds are to be seen here.

The Turkish women, of whose beauty we have heard so much, did not appear lovely to the eyes of our discriminating traveller, and the manner in which they

were

were *made up* for shew, contributed but little additional value to the original commodity. The turban of the Capitan Pacha's wife was loaded with such a profusion of diamonds and pearls, that her head seemed to be weighed down with them, while a piece of ermine, originally intended, perhaps, as a cap, appeared in the form of a great square plaster that fell down to the hips. The white and red paint employed to profusion, were ill applied; their eye-brows were hid under one or two black lines, while their teeth, become black by smoaking, and an universal stoop of the shoulders, occasioned by the taylor-like posture they are accustomed to sit in from their infancy, made them appear rather disgusting than handsome, although nature seemed actually to have intended several of them for beauties.

Notwithstanding our fair countrywoman had already made a more extensive tour than the most adventurous even of our male travellers are accustomed to, yet it was now determined to visit the Greek islands of the Archipelago. Her ladyship accordingly embarked on board a little frigate, called the Tarleton, of fourteen guns, along with M. de Choiseul, who accompanied her as far as the port of Moudagna, whence he was to proceed to the hot-baths of Bursa.

Enjoying the finest weather, in the finest climate, perhaps, in the world, they sailed along the islands called the Princes, which are seven miles and a half from the capital, then reached the promontory of Cape Bourboron, and luckily escaped from being dashed against the island of Marmora, amidst tremendous

naked rocks, during a hard gale, that succeeded a hitherto unclouded sky. Immediately after this they surveyed the Trojan shore, and deplored Leander's fate as they passed the Straits, where they found the Capitan Pacha and his fleet, on their way to Egypt.

After saluting the admiral, their little vessel passed the western point of the islands of Mitteline and Ipsera; that of Scio was seen to the left, while to the right appeared Miconia and Dragonissa.

At Naxos, where they landed, they beheld the remains of a temple dedicated to Bacchus, and contemplated the fountain where the forsaken Ariadne was discovered by the god of wine, as she wept her lover's flight. Some amusement was derived from the view of a Naxiote maiden, about to become a bride; she was dressed in her holiday clothes, which were neither decent nor tasteful; a short shift reaching to her knees, served as a petticoat; her vest was fantastic beyond conception, pearls, feathers, and beads being all sewed on, in various forms, at the same time, that two wings, like those of a butterfly, stuck between her shoulders, added not a little to the strange appearance; while, to complete the whole, her head and neck were adorned with gold chains, pearls, stones, and ribbands.

In the small island of Antiparos were discovered the mouths of several quarries, "of that famous marble, of which had I possessed a fairy's wand I would have conveyed large blocks to England, (says her ladyship) and laid them at the feet of my friend Mrs. Damer, whose talent for sculpture makes her as distinguished

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in that art, as in every other which she has chosen to profess, though her modesty has concealed much from the world."

An ass led by two Greeks conducted our bold traveller to the celebrated grotto, into which she was the first female* who had ever descended, at least in modern times, crawling sometimes on her hands and knees, holding by means of a cord fastened to the outside, and lighted by flambeaus, carried by Greeks and sailors, until she had reached the bottom, which is exactly three hundred feet below the level of the ground.

"The feeble description my pen may trace of this famous grotto I must defer at present; I yet remember with pleasure its gloomy freshness, and the sweet spring of soft water we found in one corner of it, that made us relish our cold collation with much pleasure. My patient contemplation of objects, which the silent and cold hand of Time only can produce, was very favourable to the artist who was taking a drawing of the interior of the grotto, intended for M. de Choiseul's second volume of his publication, *Du Voyage Pittoresque de la Grece*, where I am to be seated at the foot of what they call *Le Grand Autel*. Would, my dear and honoured friend†, you had been sitting by my side, for, I fear, no pen or pencil can do justice to the immensity of objects I saw, nor the beauty of them."

Having reimbarked on board the yacht, they passed the islands of Sippanto, Milos, Argentiora, and St.

* M. de Choiseul expressed himself as follows, when conversing at Constantinople about the plan of this Grecian tour: "Jamais femme n'a descendue dans la grotte d'Antiparos, peu d'hommes veulent y descendre; mais vous, Miladi vous, il faut absolument que vous y entriez."

† This letter, containing the description of the grotto of Antiparos, is addressed to the Margrave of Brandebourg Anspach and Bareith.

George

George of Arbora, and arrived happily in the Piræan port, whence they proceeded to Athens, and took up their residence at the house of the governor.

After contemplating the remains of the temple of Minerva, the lanthorn of Diogenes, the remaining pillars of the temple of Jupiter Olympus, and beholding every thing worthy of notice, our bold and accomplished traveller took her leave of

> "Those seas, where Science in her spring appear'd,
> In which the infancy of arts was rear'd;
> When Poetry was in the bloom of youth,
> And Fiction beautified each vulgar truth."

At Smyrna a grand entertainment was given to our fair countrywoman, on board a French seventy-four gun ship, commanded by the Chevalier de Lygondes, a knight of Malta, nearly related to the late Earl of Huntingdon; here also her ladyship received a visit from the late Mr. Howard, the philanthropist, whom she mistook for an interpreter!

After this she took her departure for Constantinople, and once more entered the hospitable mansion of the French ambassador. But her stay was not of long duration, for having obtained a tchouadar, or *officer of honour*, from the Sublime Porte, for the purpose of facilitating the journey, Lady Craven purchased a German carriage, and after placing it on board a Greek boat, coasted along the shores of Romelia, and landed in the bay of Agatopoly, whence she sailed for Varna. Having hired arabats for her servants and baggage, her ladyship set out in her own carriage for Silistria, whence she passed on to Buccharest, and was

entertained

entertained with great magnificence there by the Prince and Princess of Wallachia, the latter of whom "was about thirty, with a very handsome face, something like the Duchess of Gordon, only her features and countenance had more softness, and her skin and hair were fairer."

On the 18th of July 1786 Lady Craven entered Hermanstadt, an imperial town, but not until one of the carriages of her retinue had been broken down, and her own overturned. An old grey-headed major, who had commanded a little fortress in the neighbourhood for thirty years, received her ladyship with great civility, and stated, at the same time, that she was the first lady he had either heard of or seen passing that frontier during so long a period.

At Vienna, Prince Kaunitz treated our traveller with his accustomed respect, but her stay this time was but short, as she was anxious to repair to a place still more dear to her. Accordingly, after a few days residence, her ladyship set out for Anspach, and there once more beheld the prince, afterwards destined to become her husband.

This event was not far off, for Lord Craven having died September 26, 1791, her ladyship soon after became united to his Serene Highness at Lisbon. Having no issue by his former princess, the Margrave entered into an amicable arrangement with his nearest male heir, Frederick William II. in consequence of which he resigned the dominions of Anspach, to which he had succeeded in 1757, and those of Bayreuth, which he had possessed since 1769, to the house of Brandenbourg.

Brandenbourg: A princely income, in addition to all his former honours, was the remuneration he received for this sacrifice; but the chief motive which operated upon this occasion was of a far different kind, for by this exchange his Serene Highness was enabled to leave Germany and reside in England. He accordingly repaired thither, and made a purchase in the immediate vicinity of the village of Hammersmith, now known by the name of Brandenburgh-house, where the gardens have been laid out with great elegance; while a theatre has been fitted up, in which his fair and accomplished consort is accustomed to entertain select parties of their friends, by means of dramas, in which her Serene Highness appears at once the heroine and the author.

Neither the splendour of fortune nor of titles can induce her to relax from those studies, which formed her amusement, and constituted her happiness at a former period of her life. In the course of last year (1802) a little work, entitled "The Soldier of Dierenstein, or Love and Mercy, an Austrian Story," was printed at Newbury, in the neighbourhood of which the family occasionally resides, under her own immediate inspection. The following address, which is prefixed, fully proves that her Serene Highness is feelingly alive to literary censure:

"*To the Austrian Eagle.*

"O thou! who placed by the poets of old in precedency among the winged race, as the Emperor is among sovereigns. Generous bird! who long and oft extended thy expanded wing to shelter a dove flying from birds of prey, accept the following romance as a small tribute of gratitude, employ thy tremendous beak and talons against

against the critics that would tear it to pieces; so shall each Austrian hero emulate the Soldier of Dierenstein; the Danube's beauteous shores be the Muse's favourite haunt; and the Eagle still be the favourite bird of Jove."

This little work, which is novel of its kind, is divided into stanzas, instead of chapters, and in consequence of this, the whole assumes somewhat of the dramatic form. The hero, whose name is Leonardo, appears in the character of a common soldier in the Duke of Austria's army, and we are told "that he astonished and charmed the foe by the mercy he evinced in conquest; but his uplifted sword was dropped to earth when, kneeling, the vanquished sued for mercy."

This youth, who had served and distinguished himself in the ranks, proves to be the son of the prince, by the daughter of his gamekeeper, in whose army he had been employed, and after a certain number of adventures, absolutely necessary for the chief person in a romance, he is acknowledged by his father, beholds his enraptured mother, and becomes united to his charming Maude. The moral is to be found on "the banner of Leonardo, where was represented two doves tearing a spider's web, to let an entangled fly escape: the motto was, Love and mercy."

The following is the most correct list we have been able to obtain of her Serene Highness's works:

1. POETRY.

A variety of original poetry has been occasionally written by the Margravine, but never collected or regularly published; such as, 1. Verses addressed to her heart; 2. The Nabob, a fable; 3. An Epitaph on Mr. Jenner; 4. A Reply to a compliment of Lord Orford; and a variety of Prologues, Epilogues, &c.

2. DRAMA.

2. Drama.

1. The Sleep-walker, a comedy; printed at the Strawberry-hill press, in 1778.

2. The Miniature Picture, a comedy; performed at Drury-lane in 1781.

3. Nurjad, a French comedy, in three acts; printed and performed at Anspach, in 1787.

4. Le Déguisement; a translation of Cibber's comedy of "She Would and She Would Not" into French, and acted at Anspach, on which occasion Lady Craven appeared in the character of Hippolita.

5. The Silver Tankard, a musical farce; performed at the Haymarket in the summer of 1781.

3. Travels.

A Journey through the Crimea to Constantinople; in a series of letters. 4to. 1789.

4. Novels.

1. Modern Anecdotes of the antient Family of the Kinkvervankots-darsprakengotchderns, a tale for Christmas; dedicated to the Hon. Horace Walpole, afterwards Lord Orford.

2. The Soldier of Dierenstein.

GENERAL SIR DAVID DUNDAS, K. B.

ATTENTION as well as exertion are necessary to the acquisition of eminence in any profession; and this maxim is peculiarly applicable to the profession of arms. In consequence of these the military man may expect to obtain promotion, which will secure to him honours and wealth; and we beg leave to offer to the public the following account, as an example and a proof of the good effects of unremitting industry, when accompanied by a conduct guided by sagacity, and inspired by prudence.

General Sir David Dundas is a native of Scotland, of

of the family of Dundas of Dundas, which claims the rank of chief of the name. His father was a merchant in Edinburgh, and had several children besides the subject of this notice, who was born about the year 1737. By the mother's side, Sir David Dundas is cousin to Lord Melville. At the age of eighteen he entered on his military career, under the auspices of his uncle, General David Watson, quarter-master-general under his Royal Highness William Duke of Cumberland.* This officer was an able engineer; he made a survey of the Highlands of Scotland, and planned and inspected the military road through it, now so justly renowned. To this relation young Dundas was appointed an assistant, and had the further advantage of having for his coadjutor the celebrated William Roy, since quarter-master-general in Great Britain. As Roy was skilled in mathematics, it may be supposed that Dundas derived much information from such a colleague †

* He was colonel of the sixty-third regiment, and died in 1760.

† This gentleman also was a native of Scotland. He entered into the engineers at an early period of his life, for in January 1756 we find him a Lieutenant in that corps. He served during the war on the continent, and in July 1762 was appointed deputy quarter-master-general in Scotland, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the army. He rose in the service to be a lieutenant-general, quarter-master-general, and colonel of the thirtieth regiment of foot. General Roy died in 1786, in consequence of the rupture of a blood-vessel in the lungs, being subject to a constitutional catarrh, to relieve which he passed the winter previously to that event in the mild climate of Lisbon.

He was a man of great literary and mathematical talents, and was employed by government to continue the trigonometrical admeasurement

To his appointment in the quarter-master-general's department, was afterwards added a commission in the engineers, his lieutenancy bearing date the 3d of January 1756. His uncle was at this time the senior captain of the corps, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the army.

In 1759, when Colonel Elliot, afterwards Lord Heathfield, obtained a letter of service to raise a regiment of dragoons, called at that time the first light dragoons, and since his Majesty's, or fifteenth regiment, Lieutenant Dundas was promoted to a troop in it. With that gallant corps, which has repeatedly distinguished itself wherever employed, he embarked

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measurement of the distance betwixt the two observatories of Greenwich and Paris, which the French had ascertained as far as Calais. General Roy commenced his operations at Dover. The result, we believe, is to be found in the Transactions of the Royal Society, of which he was a fellow. Some years prior to his death he published a very ingenious work on the "Military Antiquities of the Romans in Britain."

General Dundas, to whom by will, as we have heard, he left a legacy, was in habits of the strictest friendship with him. As a proof of the opinion he entertained of General Roy's literary talents, the following extract is taken from his "Outline of the Campaigns of the British Army in Germany, from 1756 to 1763," annexed to his "Principles of Military Movements," of which work more will be said in the following pages:

"For much information and many circumstances contained in this relation, I must here express my acknowledgements to my friend Major-general Roy, and most truly regret that one so perfectly acquainted with the scene of operations, and possessed of the most ample materials, should never have given to the world a detailed history of that war, through the whole of which he served, and which he is so well enabled to investigate."

for

for Germany, and on Colonel Elliot's being put on the staff in that country, he acted as his aid-de-camp.

When the British cabinet determined upon adopting the plans of the great Lord Chatham, by attacking the Spanish foreign settlements, among which the Havannah was the principal, General Elliot was appointed to the staff, under the command of that excellent officer the Earl of Albemarle, who was recommended for this important expedition by his Royal Highness William Duke of Cumberland. With General Elliot Captain Dundas embarked as his aid-de-camp. After the reduction of the island of Cuba, in 1762, he returned with the general to England, and remained as aid-de-camp till he received the majority of the fifteenth dragoons, on the 28th of May 1770. From that corps he was promoted to the lieutenant-colonelcy of the second regiment of horse, on the Irish establishment, now the fifth dragoon guards, which he immediately joined.

Although General Watson was far from being rich, and had a natural son to provide for, the nephew was much indebted to the favour and patronage of his uncle's military and ministerial friends. Through them he procured a staff appointment in Ireland, as quarter-master-general, and by the same interest, at the castle of Dublin, he obtained leave to sell his commission in the horse, by which he realized a considerable sum, while he was allowed, at the same time, to retain his rank in the army. This extraordinary favour is not without precedent in that kingdom; but from the excellent regulations of his Royal Highness

the present Commander in Chief, we trust it will never again be permitted. The staff-appointment he also kept, and some time after exchanged it for the adjutant-generalship, which perhaps he was better adapted for by his tactical pursuits. In February 1781 he obtained the rank of colonel, in consequence of the latter appointment.

Shortly after the peace of 1783, the great Frederick of Prussia (to whom all nations are more or less indebted for the discipline of their armies) having ordered a grand review of the whole of his forces, the curiosity and attention of military men were excited by the preparations for so splendid an exhibition. Colonel Dundas applied for leave to be present on this occasion; which being granted, he repaired to the plains of Potsdam, and there, as may well be supposed, laid the foundation of his system of discipline, to be afterwards matured and digested by deliberate observation and diligent consideration. This journey, moreover, enabled him to acquire a knowledge of the German language, so useful to an officer, and a thorough acquaintance with the military etiquette and interior œconomy of an army; qualifications highly proper for every one who wishes to distinguish himself in the service of his country.

On his return, the leisure hours from his staff-appointment were employed in arranging his system of tactics for the press, from which it issued in 1788, in one volume quarto, under the title of "Principles of Military Movements chiefly applicable to Infantry." In the compilation of this work he has borrowed largely

largely from the two following excellent publications: "*Essai de Tactique, par M. Guibert,*" an officer in the service of France; a very indifferent translation of whose work was published in this country a few years ago: the other is, "Elements of Tactics for the Prussian Infantry, by General Saldern;" this has been ably translated by Professor Landmann, of the Royal Academy, Woolwich.

Simplicity and generality of principle are the distinguishing features of the great Frederick's military system. Columns to the front or in *echellon*; accurate marching in line for his infantry; and rapid movements for the cavalry, were the principal traits of it. When he moved, it was at the head of a strong advanced guard, behind which his troops, formed into columns, were collected and combined. One part of the army was strengthened by reserves, or the guard abovementioned, and the rest of his line refused. To gain the enemy's flank was a desirable manœuvre, and by these means he also acted with superiority, though perhaps in numbers he was much inferior.

In April 1790 Colonel Dundas was promoted to the rank of major-general, and appointed colonel to the twenty-second regiment of infantry on the 2d of April of the following year, on which he gave up the adjutant-generalship of Ireland.

His Majesty, to whom General Dundas had dedicated his work, having been pleased to approve of it, directed it to be arranged and adapted for the use of the army, in June 1792. It was accordingly printed, under the title of "Rules and Regulations for the

Formations, Field-exercise, and Movements of his Majesty's Forces;" with an injunction that this system should "be strictly followed and adhered to, without any deviation whatsoever; and such orders before given as are found to interfere with, or counteract their effect and operation, are to be considered as hereby cancelled and annulled.*"

The principles on which these regulations were formed, are in marching to preserve just distances, particularly the leading of divisions, on which every movement depends, forming good lines, changing fronts by *echellon* movements, wheeling by divisions from column, and at all times marching either in ordinary or quick time by cadenced steps.

A late writer, to whom the army is much indebted for the elucidation of General Dundas's work, says, "That till these Rules and Regulations were published and directed to be followed, we never had any general system of discipline ordered by authority to be implicitly complied with; on the contrary, (a few review-regulations excepted) every commander in chief, or officer commanding a corps, adopted or invented such manœuvres as were thought proper. Neither was the manual exercise the same in all regiments, nor marching in slow and quick time properly regulated; the consequences of which were, that when two or three regiments met in the same garrison or camp, they could not act in brigade or line, till the

* See the order, signed William Fawcett, adjutant-general, dated June 1, 1792, prefixed to the "Rules and Regulations."

general

general officer commanding established a temporary uniform system."*

Uniform, however, as this system of tactics is, yet it was far from meeting with the approbation of military men in general, when first promulgated. Some thought the manœuvres were too complex, and others that they were not sufficiently explained. To obviate these, Captain Reide published the work just alluded to, his intentions, to use his own words, being "to shew the principles on which the present system of tactics is formed in a plain and perspicuous point of view, as the rules laid down in the book published by authority are not sufficiently explanatory, tending sometimes rather to confuse than elucidate."†

The "Rules and Regulations for the Cavalry" were also planned by General Dundas; so that the army has been more indebted to this officer than any other from the days of General Bland (who published the first regular system in our language) down to the present time. General Dundas's original work on "Military Movements" is now out of print; but the "Rules and Regulations" are in the hands of every

* Reide's treatise on the "Duty of Infantry Officers, and the present System of British Military Discipline," pages 2 and 3.

† Reide's treatise on "Military Discipline," pages 4 and 5. This treatise met with a very favourable reception from the army; and it is perhaps not saying too much, that the system is much indebted to his explanation for its now being so well understood. This has induced a number of officers during the late war to attempt similar works, but, on an attentive perusal, they all are borrowed from that gentleman's. Among the principal are, Russel, Dickenson, Smirke, Dominicus, Hood, &c.

person, having gone through several editions, and being sold publicly.

On the commencement of the late war General Dundas was put on the staff, and in the autumn of 1793 he was sent to command a body of troops at Toulon. While we were in possession of that place, it was determined by Admiral Lord Hood and General O'Hara, who had joined the army there from Gibraltar, to dislodge the French from the heights of Arenes, on which they had erected a battery of heavy cannon, and from whence Bonaparte (the present chief consul), who commanded it, annoyed the town and citadel exceedingly. For this service General Dundas was selected, having under his command two thousand three hundred British and allies. The approaches to the French lines were very strong and intricate; he had a bridge to cross, to march through olive-plantations, and ascend a hill cut in vine-terraces; yet, under all these disadvantages, he succeeded in taking the battery, on the 20th of November. The French, however, who were very strong, attacked the assailants and dispossessed them of it, in consequence of which General Dundas was obliged to fall back on the town. Governor O'Hara, who had promised Lord Hood not to go out of the lines, thinking to retrieve the fortune of the day, ventured too far, and was wounded and taken prisoner.

As Toulon was found untenable, from the heights being in possession of the republicans, Lord Hood judged it prudent to embark the troops and sail for Corsica. On the 24th of January 1794 they accordingly

ingly left the bay of Hieres, when they consisted of the following British regiments: second battalion of the royals, eleventh, twenty-fifth, thirtieth, fiftieth, fifty-first, and sixty-ninth, with a body of artillery, making in all about one thousand four hundred men. There were besides some Neapolitans, emigrants, &c. On their arrival off Corsica, they landed to the westward of Mortella Point, and took possession of a height that overlooked the tower of the same name. The latter was immediately invested and taken, after an obstinate resistance, on the 10th of February.

Some difference of opinion, it is said, having prevailed between the Admiral and the General, the latter repaired to England, and was afterwards succeeded in the command of the forces by the Hon. Lieutenant-general (the late Sir Charles) Stuart.

Shortly after his return General Dundas was sent to the continent, to serve under his Royal Highness the Duke of York. In the brilliant action of the 10th of May 1794, at Tournay, General Dundas distinguished himself greatly. During the unfortunate retreat through Holland he bore a very active part, particularly on the 30th of December, in taking Tuyl, where the French were strongly posted. To arrive at this town, it was necessary to proceed along a road flanked by a number of batteries, planted on the isle Bommel, while the place itself was surrounded by a strong abbatis. All these obstacles were surmounted, and notwithstanding the great superiority of the republicans, they were forced from their posts, and obliged to cross the river Waal with great loss of men

and cannon. On the 8th of January following he was again successful, near Buern, when part of his brigade, under Lord Cathcart, drove eight hundred of the enemy before them with great slaughter. On General Harcourt's return to England, the command of the remains of the British army devolved on General Dundas, and in consequence of the severity of the weather the allies now quitted the Dutch territory. He afterwards fixed his head-quarters at Delmenhorst and Rethen, in the neighbourhood of Bremen, rather than in that city, where the morals of the younger officers might be exposed to temptations; though it must be allowed that the police of Bremen may vie with that of any city in Europe in point of regularity, and the preservation of good order. The gallant remnant of the British army at length embarked, at the mouth of a creek near Bremerlehe, on the 14th of April, and the fleet, consisting of upwards of two hundred sail, cleared the Weser on the 24th of the same month. General Dundas returned to England.

In December 1795 he was removed from the command of the twenty-second foot to that of the seventh dragoons. He was also appointed governor of Languard-fort. On the resignation of General Morrison, from ill health, General Dundas was nominated quarter-master-general of the British army in 1797. General Morrison had held this office for thirty years, and his Majesty was pleased to allow the veteran five pounds *per diem* for life, which, however, he did not long enjoy, as he died in 1799.

When the army embarked for an expedition to Holland,

Holland, in 1799, Dundas was one of the general officers selected by his Royal Highness the Commander in Chief, and in all the principal engagements in that strong country he had his full share, particularly those of Bergen and Alkmaar, on the 2d and 6th of October. With respect to the first mentioned, his Royal Highness, in his official dispatches to government, says, "The points where this well-fought action was principally contested, were sustained by the British columns under those highly distinguished officers General Sir Ralph Abercrombie and Lieutenant-general Dundas, whose exertions, as well as the gallantry of the brave troops they led, cannot have been surpassed by any former instances of British valour."

On the return of the army from this fruitless expedition, General Dundas continued on the staff till the peace of Amiens, when the present minister thought he acted right in reducing the finest and best military establishment that this country ever beheld, and which, from the attention of his Royal Highness the Commander in Chief and the former administration, was not only calculated to repel all attacks on the British empire, but to act with vigour and success against our enemies. It is needless to remark how much such an army is now wanted.

Prior to that event, and on the death of the ever-to-be-lamented Sir Ralph Abercrombie, General Dundas succeeded him in the command of the second or North British dragoons, a corps which, as long as the deeds of British cavalry are mentioned, will be held in the highest

highest point of view. He also succeeded him in the government of Forts George and Augustus, in North Britain.

In the summer of 1801 he was second in command under the commander in chief of the grand army which was formed on Bagshot-heath, where near twenty-five thousand men were assembled. General Dundas took uncommon pains in disciplining this fine army, by having it out twice a day. His Majesty and the Royal Family, when it was reviewed, gave him the highest praise for his exertions.

On the 12th of March this year (1803) he resigned the quarter-master-generalship, and was put on the staff, as second in command under his Royal Highness the Duke of York. His Majesty was pleased also, as a particular mark of his royal regard, to invest him with the ribband of the order of the bath, and on the 1st of June he, with many of the knights, was installed in King Henry the Seventh's Chapel. A grand ball and supper was given at Ranelagh on the third of the same month, which cost the junior knights seven thousand pounds.

Sir David Dundas is destined to command a grand camp to be formed on Coxheath, and kept ready to act, if the French should attempt an invasion. The staff of this country at present consists of one general, ten lieutenant-generals, and thirty-six major-generals. Sir David Dundas commands as general in the field.

MR.

MR. RICHARD GOUGH.

THIS gentleman has long been known to the public by his researches and writings as an antiquary.

The family from which Mr. Gough is descended, the Goughs of Wales, extend their line no further back than the time of Henry IV. though others of the name, and connected with the family, occur as early as the reign of Henry I. Sir Matthew Gough, with whose father, Innerth or John, the pedigree begins, having passed the prime of his life in the French wars of Henry V. and VI. finished it in Cade's rebellion, fighting on the part of the citizens, in July 1450, at the battle of London-bridge. Nor is this the only instance where Mr. Gough's ancestors have been highly distinguished for their loyalty.

"The unfortunate Charles I. during his troubles, stopt at Wolverhampton, where he was entertained by Madam St. Andrew, who was either sister or aunt to Mr. Henry Gough, and that gentleman ventured to accommodate their Royal Highnesses Charles Prince of Wales and James Duke of York. An antient tenement still remains at Wolverhampton, where these princely guests resided. A subscription being set on foot to aid the exigencies of the royal cause, the inhabitants cheerfully contributed according to their ability; but the most ample supply was expected from Mr. Gough, whose loyalty was as eminent as his fortune was superior, when, to the great surprise and disappointment of every one, he refused any assistance, though strongly urged by the king's commissioners, who retired in disgust and chagrin. When night approached, putting on his hat and cloak, Mr. Gough went secretly and solicited a private audience of his majesty. This appearing an extraordinary request, the dangerous circumstances of the times considered, the lord in waiting wished to know the object of the request, with an offer to communicate it to the king.

Mr.

Mr. Gough persisted in rejecting this offer, and after much interrogation obtained admission to the royal presence. He then drew from his cloak a purse, containing a large sum of money, and presenting it with due respect, said, "May it please your majesty to accept this, it is all the cash I have by me, or I would have brought more." The gift was so acceptable to the king, that an offer of knighthood was made to Mr. Gough; but this loyal subject, having no other view than to serve his sovereign, declined this honour, which was afterwards conferred on his grandson, Henry of Perry-hall, when he was introduced at the court of Charles II. and had mention made of the loyalty of his ancestors. It is presumed these services were not forgotten in the reign of Queen Anne, as Sir Henry obtained for two of his sons, while very young, the places of page to the Queen and the Duke of Gloucester." *See Shaw's History of Staffordshire, Vol. II. page* 1. to which this memoir has considerable obligations.

Mr. Gough's father was Harry Gough, Esq. fifth son of Sir Harry Gough, of Perry-hall, and was born April 2, 1681. When only eleven years of age he went with Sir Richard Gough, his uncle, to China, kept all his accounts, and was called by the Chinese *Ami whang*, the *white-haired boy*. In 1707 he commanded the ship Streatham, in which he continued eight years, and with equal ability and integrity acquired a decent competency, the result of many hardships and voyages in the service of the East India Company, to which his whole life was devoted while he presided among their directors, being elected one in 1731, if not sooner. From 1734 to his death, which happened July 13, 1751, he represented in parliament the borough of Bramber, in Sussex, and enjoyed the confidence of Sir Robert Walpole: whose measures he so firmly supported, as not only to hurt his health by attendance on the long and late debates during

during the opposition to that minister, but was often known to attend the house with a fit of the gout coming on him.

His son Richard, the subject of our memoir, was born October 21, 1735, in a large house in Winchester-street London, on a site peculiarly calculated for the birth of an antiquary, that of the monastery of Augustine-friars founded by Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford and Essex, in 1253. At the time of the dissolution, the house, cloister and garden of the Augustines were granted by the crown to William Lord St. John, afterwards Marquis of Winchester, who built a magnificent house upon the very spot, part of which remains, the rest is occupied by later dwellings, and among them stands the house alluded to.

Mr. Gough's parents were dissenters, and their son received the first rudiments of Latin at home, under the tuition of a Mr. Barnewitz, a Courlander, who taught at the same time the sons of several eminent merchants in the city; on his death Mr. Gough was committed to the instruction of the Rev. Roger Pickering, one of the most learned, most imprudent, and most illtreated of the dissenting ministers of his time. On his death, May 18, 1755, Mr. Gough finished his Greek studies under Mr. Samuel Dyer, the friend and literary contemporary of Johnson.

After his father's death, in July 1752, he was admitted fellow-commoner of Benet College, Cambridge, where his relations, Sir Henry Gough and his brother John, had before studied under Dr. Mawson, afterwards

wards Bishop of Chichester and Ely. Benet had peculiar attractions for a mind like Mr. Gough's; it had not only trained the great Parker to revive the study of antiquity, and received from him a rich donation of curious and ancient manuscripts; but had educated Stukeley, to trace our antiquities to their remotest origin. The college tutor in 1752 was Dr. John Barnardiston, afterwards master. His private tutor was Mr. John Cott, fellow of the house, who died at his Rectory of Broxted, Essex, in 1781. Under the private tuition of the three excellent scholars beforementioned, he early imbibed a taste for classical literature; and it is not to be wondered that his connexion with a college, eminent for producing a succession of British antiquaries, inspired him with a strong propensity to the study of our national antiquities. Here was first planned the British Topography, and hence, in 1756, he made his first visit to Croyland-abbey, whence his career of antiquarian pursuits literally began. From Cambridge he made his first excursions, and continued these pursuits every year to various parts of the kingdom, taking notes, which on his return were digested into form.

In 1768 Mr. Gough published the "Anecdotes of British Topography" in a single quarto volume. At this time the love of topographical research was daily increasing; and the outline it contained, of a history of the progress of topographical enquiries in Great Britain and Ireland, gave new life to the pursuit. The first compiler of a work like this was John Bagford, who furnished Bishop Gibson with the list prefixed

prefixed to his edition of the Britannia. Bishop Nicholson's Historical Libraries, and Dr. Rawlinson's English Topographer, had of course become greatly imperfect, and Mr. Gough's work not only informed the curious what lights had from time to time been thrown on our topographical antiquities, but enumerated most of the materials which had been collected, whether in print or manuscript. This work was improved in two volumes of the same size, 1780, and has been since augmented to a third, ready for the press.

The year before, February 26, 1767, he was elected a member of the Society of Antiquaries, and drew up their history prefixed to the first volume of the Archæologia, in 1770. In 1771, by the partiality of the president, Dr. Milles, Dean of Exeter, he was, on the death of Dr. Gregory Sharpe, master of the Temple, nominated director, which office he held till December 12, 1797, when, for reasons which the society can best explain, he quitted it altogether. He was chosen F.R.S. 1775, but quitted that society in 1795. The publication of the Archæologia he superintended for many years, and in the different volumes, till 1796, are various articles drawn up or communicated by him; his last paper we believe was read at the Society of Antiquaries, January 26, 1792, "On the Analogy between certain ancient Monuments," and published in the eleventh volume of the Archæologia, 1794. Beside which, the different communications in the two latter volumes of the society's "*Vetusta Monumenta*," to which his signatures are annexed, prove him

him to have been for years the most useful and laborious member it could boast. One of the principal articles in the last volume, 1796, is Mr. Gough's account of the great loss our national history sustained by the destruction of Lord Montague's house at Cowdray, in Sussex.

In 1767 he opened a correspondence, mostly under the signature of D. H. in the Gentleman's Magazine; and on the death of his fellow-collegian, Mr. Duncombe, in 1786, he occasionally communicated reviews of literary publications, in which he has constantly evinced a mind deeply impressed with a sense of the excellence and happiness of the English constitution both in church and state.

In 1774 he entered into a matrimonial connection with a lady whose maiden name was Hall; and retired principally to Enfield, the property at which his father purchased in 1723. Here he added to the family mansion an extensive library, which contains at the present moment the richest museum of topography in the kingdom.

In 1773 he formed the design of a new edition of "Camden's Britannia." For twenty summers he had amused himself with taking notes in various parts of England, and at last of Scotland, at first with no higher view than private information, or perhaps of communicating them to the public in some such form as Dr. Stukeley's Itinerary, or that of the local antiquities of particular towns or districts; but the mistakes and conciseness of preceding editors at last encouraged him to a new edition of the Britannia; the

the translation and enlargement of which occupied seven years, and Mr. Gough was nine more attending it through the press. It appeared in three volumes folio, 1789.

About the same time the design was formed for Camden. While on a visit at Poole, Mr. Gough heard of the difficulties under which Mr. Hutchins laboured in respect to his History of Dorsetshire. He set on foot a subscription, and was the means of bringing into light one of the most valuable of our county histories. Mr. Hutchins was then combating the infirmities of age and gout, and Mr. Gough superintended the work through the press, whence it issued in two volumes folio, 1774. Its author, however, did not live to see it completed, dying June 21, 1773. But his daughter was enabled to proceed to Bombay, and form a happy connexion with a gentleman to whom she had been long engaged, Major Bellasis, who in grateful return to the memory of his father-in-law, in 1795, at his own expence, set on foot a new edition, to which Mr. Gough cheerfully contributed his assistance; and the two first volumes are already in the possession of the world. Except Thomas's re-publication of Dugdale's Warwickshire, and two or three others of a paltry kind, this is the only instance of a large county history attaining a second edition.

In the snowy season of 1778 Mr. Gough, accompanied by the late Captain Grose, made an excursion into Norfolk, where, having already purchased the collections of Mr. Thomas Martin, with the assistance

of the captain's pencil, he made preparations for an improved history of Thetford, 1779, 4to. Having also purchased Vertue's plates of the medals, coins, and great seals, executed by the celebrated Simon, he gave a new and enlarged edition, 1780, 4to. The same year he not only assisted Mr. Nichols in the collection of ancient royal and noble wills, but wrote the preface; and soon after superintended the printing of Dr. Nash's Collections for Worcestershire. About this time, too, Mr. Nichols published his "*Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica*," the design of which was both suggested and forwarded by Mr. Gough; and several essays bear his name, particularly the "Memoirs of Mr. Edward Row Mores; the *Reliquiæ Galeanæ*; the History of the Society of Antiquaries of Spalding; the Life of Sir John Hawkwood; and the History of Croyland-Abbey."

In 1785 Mr. Gough published "A comparative View of the ancient Monuments of India, particularly those on the Island of Salset, near Bombay;" in which, with considerable industry, he threw together the narratives of travellers of different nations.

The next year appeared the first volume of his grand work, (collecting the materials for which had occupied a large portion of his life) entitled, "Sepulchral Monuments of Great Britain." The second volume, in distinct parts, appeared in 1796 and 1799. These works have been given to the world, in which the history of past times, the familiar manners of our ancestors, and the progress of their arts, have received such accurate and copious investigation. In the introduction

introduction to the first volume he enters on a large field of enquiry; the mode of interment, and construction of monuments, from the earliest ages to that which is now practised in Europe: somewhat of this ground he again goes over in the introduction to the second; and throughout the work produces ample reason for inveighing against the ravages of conquerors; the devastation of false zeal and fanaticism; the depredations of ignorance, interest, and false taste; the defacements of the white-washer's brush, and a variety of other circumstances, which, beside the ever-wasting hand of Time, have all contributed to destroy the sepulchral monuments of our ancestors. In this work he professes to have neither the object, the plan, nor the method of an historian.

"Our materials (he says) are different, and my plan adopts only what his excludes; great events, great personages, great characters, good or bad, are all that he brings upon his stage!

"I talk of graves, of worms and epitaphs
And that small portion of the barren earth
That serves as paste and covering to our bones!

Mine are subjects rejected by the historian to the end of each reign, among the prodigies that distinguish it; yet is this detail not uninteresting. It is a picture of private mixed with public life, a subject in which my countrymen have been anticipated by their neighbours."

The engravings which accompany it are not only numerous and accurate, but splendid.

In 1794 he published an account of the beautiful missal presented to Henry VI. by the Duchess of Bedford, which Mr. Edwards, bookseller in Pall-mall, purchased at the Duchess of Portland's sale, and still possesses; and has throughout assisted in the copious, well-directed, and accurate History of Leicestershire.

Mr. Gough's last work, was the "History and Antiquities of Pleshy, in the County of Essex;" London, 1803, 4to. which, though confined to the history of a single spot, forms collectively a mass of information whose value cannot in justice be lowly appreciated.

It is with pleasure we perceive Mr. Gough still active in the cause of ancient literature; and that while he enjoys that independence which he glories in possessing as his inheritance, he continues to employ it in his favourite pursuit. He is in all respects pre-eminently qualified for the labours of the antiquary; and his magnificent work upon sepulchral monuments has already convinced the world that he possesses not only the most indefatigable perseverance, but an ardour which no expence can possibly deter.

EARL OF CARLISLE, K. G.

IT is with no small degree of pleasure, mingled with pride, that we behold some of our present race of nobility cultivating a taste for composition, and devoting a portion of their time to the Muses. It is thus that they mutually receive from, and confer honour on letters, and, like the Earl of Surrey, during the reign of Henry VIII. and Sheffield Duke of Buckingham, in the classic age of Anne, contribute to exalt their own fame, without diminishing that of their country.

The family of the nobleman whose memoirs are here attempted to be detailed, was ennobled towards the middle of the seventeenth century, soon after the close of the civil war, the first patent being dated April 20, 1661, and the first peer called to the upper house,

house, by the style and title of Baron Dacre, Viscount Howard, of Morpeth. Posterior to the Revolution, a coronet of a higher order was appended to the arms, and if we are to judge from their wealth and alliances, their claims and their pretensions, these will justify any further honour which may be either in the power or the inclination of the Sovereign to bestow.

Frederick Howard, Earl of Carlisle, Viscount Howard of Morpeth, Baron Dacres, and a knight of the most noble order of the garter, was born May 28, 1748. As he was intended for a public life, his lordship was sent early to that famous seminary erected by the "ill-fated Henry,"* where so many of our noble youths are educated. At Eton College he became the contemporary of many men who have attained either high rank or great celebrity; of Hare, whose verses were appended to the school-room, on account of their excellence; of Fox, whom he was fated to admire "ere yet in manhood's bloom," and to differ from at a riper age; and of the Duke of Leinster, with whom he has ever lived in habits of familiarity. It was here too that his lordship first saw, and formed a particular intimacy with, the late Mr. Storer,† the son of an eminent planter in the island of Jamaica. This young gentleman, ingenuous, engaging, and ac-

* Eton College was founded by Henry VI. in 1740:

"Let softer strains ill-fated Henry mourn,
And palms eternal flourish round his urn."

† Mr. Storer on his death became the benefactor of the seminary which he had adorned while living, having bequeathed to it his superb collection of books and paintings.

complished, beloved and admired by all his school-fellows, engaged the attention, and rivetted the friendship of Lord Morpeth (by which title the earl was known during his father's life-time), and they became the Pylades and Orestes of Eton. It was with such companions as these that Lord Carlisle was accustomed to spend his early days, in successive study and recreation; it was along with them he imbibed a taste for the classic page, under the eye of the provost and the tutors, or, descending to humbler occupations, twirled the hoop, navigated the funny, manned the galley, or was borne, at this paradisaical time of life, "naked yet not ashamed," on the bosom of the silvery flood:

> "Where dancing sun-beams on the water play'd,
> And verdant alders form'd a quiv'ring shade."

Here too, doubtless, he was accustomed at times to diversify his amusements, and imitate the sportsman, so admirably described by Pope in his short but beautiful poem of Windsor Forest:

> "In genial spring, beneath the quiv'ring shade,
> Where cooling vapours breathe along the mead,
> The patient fisher takes his silent stand,
> Intent, his angle trembling in his hand:
> With looks unmov'd, he hopes the scaly breed,
> And eyes the dancing cork, and bending reed.
> "Our plenteous streams a various race supply,
> The bright-ey'd perch, with fins of Indian dye;
> The silver eel, in shining volumes roll'd;
> The yellow carp, in scales bedropp'd with gold;
> Swift trouts, diversify'd with crimson stains;
> And pikes, the tyrants of the wat'ry plains."

After

After the lapse of many years, the writer of this article accidentally beheld his lordship nearly on the same "classic spot," renewing the pastimes of his youth, and stealing a few minutes of riper age from the cares of the world, by throwing a *mimic fly*, and endeavouring to entice the lusty but cautious trout.

It was here too that he, perhaps, caught the inspiration of poetry, and might have fairly exclaimed:

> "First in these fields I try the sylvan strains,
> Nor blush to sport on Windsor's blissful plains:
> Fair Thames! flow gently from thy sacred spring,
> While on thy banks Sicilian Muses sing;
> Let vernal airs through trembling osiers play,
> And Albion's cliffs resound the rural lay."

Perhaps, also, at this joyous time of life, he did not sing unbid:

> "Non injussa cano: te nostra, vare, myricæ,
> Te nemus omne canet: nec Phœbo gratior ulla est,
> Quam sibi quæ vari præscripsit pagina nomen."

But the time soon arrived when his lordship was destined to leave this retreat of the Muses, and tread the busy haunts of men. Accordingly, after residing the usual time there, he repaired to the continent, and made the grand tour, during which, although he must doubtless have admired the beauties and embellishments both of nature and art, in France as well as in Italy, yet he doubtless found many points of comparison, in which his native country could not be rivalled, for the former was at that period sunk in the apathy of superstition, while the latter languished beneath the horrors of despotism.

On the expiration of his minority, the Earl of Carlisle returned to England, and his father being dead, took his seat in the house of peers, in 1769: about the same period, although not a peer of Scotland, he was honoured with the order of the thistle, and became one of the gayest noblemen of the capital. Possessing a small but elegant figure, in which symmetry was happily blended with agility and strength, he shone one of the meteors of fashion. Elegant in his dress and manners, with his green ribband across his vest, and a brilliant star sparkling at his side, he was considered as one of the chief ornaments of the court; nor can it be denied that his person was decorated with greater care and more exquisite attention than any other beau of that day.

It will scarcely be believed, however, but the fact is no less singular than true, that Mr. Fox and the Earl of Carlisle were at this period considered as two of the best dressed men of their times! The latter is still singularly neat and appropriate in his appearance; but whoever surveys his present morning's attire, consisting of a plain drab or mixed-coloured coat, with his horseman's boots and round hat (for the Duke of Grafton alone retains the *triangular* one), or beholds his old school-fellow Charles, with his honest shining countenance, unpowdered, "unanointed, unannealed," will be apt to doubt that they were at one period the Castor and Pollux of the gay world, and endeavoured long, but ineffectually, to introduce the foreign foppery of *red-heels*. But the intoxication of youth soon yielded in both to maturer counsels, and we behold them,

them, after the lapse of a few years dedicated to fashion, resuming the original bent of their nature and education, and contending in the lists of parliament for the meed of fame, and the prize of eloquence.

On entering on the political stage, Lord Carlisle looked around him for some time before he engaged in the combat; for during the *vohirl* of ministerial juntos that distinguished this period of his Majesty's reign, and in some measure paralyzed his government, it was scarcely possible to make a judicious election. At length, however, the political wheel of fortune became stationary, and Lord North was not only placed on the apex, but appeared to be the only premier who had enjoyed the full confidence of his Sovereign since the days of the late Earl of Bute.

At the epoch of his lordship's administration, the empire may be said to have attained and enjoyed an unexampled degree of prosperity. Our national debt was indeed large, but our means were ample, and our resources not only undiminished, but untouched. A glorious war, terminated by a magnanimous, if not an advantageous peace, had rendered us respected abroad, and the name of a Englishman became a kind of passport for attention throughout every country in Europe. Our trade at home was in a flourishing state, and our colonies in another hemisphere looked up to us with a filial eye, and wished only for a continuance of security and protection. But an evil genius seemed to decree the annihilation of our happiness; the demons of cupidity and ambition were unhappily let loose, and not content with receiving the

the golden eggs of commerce from our foreign possessions, it was resolved to destroy the Trans-Atlantic hen that layed them.

During these transactions the Earl of Carlisle, who now began to distinguish himself by his speeches in the house of peers, was nominated treasurer of the household; and when it was found that measures of coercion had become unproductive of concession, a different plan was at length recurred to, and this nobleman was selected, on account of his acknowledged moderation, to act a conspicuous part during the disputes between the mother country and the insurgent colonists.

But it may be necessary to pause here, and calculate, in some measure, the probable effects of this new and extraordinary mission.

The scheme of sending commissioners to America seemed at first sight to augur peace, and afford a proof of moderation, but appears to have originated in the ignorance of the British cabinet in respect to the actual state of the colonies; for this measure had already been tried and proved unsuccessful. It may be fair to conclude, therefore, that the embassy was rather calculated to operate in England than America.

On the 14th of July 1776 Lord Howe, on his arrival at Staten Island, dispatched a circular letter to the governors of the colonies, acquainting them that he and his brother were invested with certain powers by the British government, and desiring them to publish, as soon as possible, a declaration of the British legislature, which he then enclosed. By this it appeared

peared that the admiral and general were authorized "to grant general or particular pardons to those who, in the tumult of the times, might have deviated from their just allegiance, and who were willing, by a speedy return to their duty, to reap the benefits of the royal favour." The commissioners had likewise the power "of declaring any colony, town, or district, to be in his Majesty's peace;" in which case the penal provisions of the laws would cease in their favour, while a correspondent reward was promised to the services of all persons who might contribute to the restoration of the public tranquillity.

No sooner were the above papers transmitted by General Washington to congress, than they were immediately published, by its direction, in every newspaper throughout the colonies, accompanied by a resolution,* which ought to have been considered as final, it being calculated to preclude the possibility of all future appeals of a similar nature.

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* "*In Congress, July* 19, 1776.

"Resolved, That a copy of the circular letters, and of the declaration they enclosed, from Lord Howe to Mr. Franklin, Mr. Eden, Lord Dunmore, Mr. Martin, and Sir James Wright, late governors, sent to Ambry by a flag, and forwarded to congress by General Washington, be published in the several gazettes, that the good people of these United States may be informed of what *nature* are the commissions, and what the *terms*, with the expectations of which the insidious court of Great Britain has endeavoured to amuse and disarm them; and that the few who still remain suspended by a hope, founded either in the justice or moderation of their late king, may now at length be convinced, that the valour alone of their country is to save their liberties.

CHA. THOMPSON, Sec."

However,

However, in consequence of a message sent by Lord Howe soon after to congress, a committee of three gentlemen, Dr. Franklin, Mr. Adams, and Mr. Rutledge, were appointed to treat with him, and, as might have been easily foreseen, their report totally destroyed every pleasing idea of peace:

"Upon the whole (say they), it did not appear to your committee that his lordship's commission contained any other authority of importance than what is contained in the act of parliament, viz. that of granting pardons, with such exceptions as the commissioners shall think proper to make, and of declaring America, or any part of it, to be in the king's peace; for as to the power of enquiring into the state of America (add they), which his lordship mentioned to us, and of conferring and consulting with any persons the commissioners might think proper; and representing the result of such conversations to the ministry, who (provided the colonies would subject themselves) might after all, or might not, at their pleasure, make any alterations in the former instructions to governors, or propose in parliament any amendment of the acts complained of, we apprehend any expectation from the effect of such a power would have been too uncertain and precarious to be relied on by America, had she still continued in her state of dependence."

Notwithstanding this previous failure, Lord North persevered in his plan, and it must be allowed, that so far from being condemned by his political opponents, it was considered as an augury of returning tranquillity. Accordingly, in 1778, the Earl of Carlisle repaired to America, in the character of one of his Majesty's commissioners, for the purpose of restoring peace. He was accompanied upon this occasion by Governor Johnstone, who was included along with him in the mission, and also by Mr. Eden, now Lord Auckland. It is well known, that their

their joint efforts upon this occasion were unattended with success, and that all their arguments failed in persuading the Americans to return under the government of Great Britain; it is on the other hand acknowledged by all, that the nobleman at the head of this embassy, executed the office entrusted to his care, in a manner that redounded greatly to his honour.

Soon after their return, Mr. Eden, who possessed an intelligent and active mind, published four letters, which he addressed to his patron, Lord Carlisle, on the spirit of party, the means of raising the supplies, and on the representation of Ireland, respecting a free trade. Immediately after this, the Earl of Carlisle, who had been nominated lord-lieutenant of the East Riding of Yorkshire, was appointed viceroy of that kingdom;* and on this occasion also he was accompanied by his friend Mr. Eden, who, in the capacity of secretary, managed the interests of England in the parliament of the sister kingdom.

The period at which his lordship was called upon to preside over the affairs of that nation, was peculiarly arduous and critical. The administration of Lord North had become odious; and while America had boldly thrown off her allegiance, other portions of the empire evinced a marked disinclination to his administration. Ireland having been drained of all the veteran troops, for the purpose of carrying on an hopeless combat on the Trans-Atlantic continent, the inhabitants had associated for their own defence and

* October 1780.

protection,

protection, and an army of volunteers, headed by the Earl of Charlemont, and officered by gentlemen of large fortunes, was in complete possession of the country. The situation of a viceroy was therefore extremely delicate, more especially as a formidable and increasing party in opposition tended not a little to embarrass those intrusted with the government, and obliged them at times to deviate from that course which had been chalked out for their conduct. Yet, notwithstanding these adverse circumstances, the administration of the nobleman in question was accompanied with many circumstances calculated to conciliate popular favour, and meliorate the condition of an unhappy people. It was during his lordship's administration that a national bank was established, and many excellent plans formed, and bills passed, for encreasing the trade of a portion of the empire which had not hitherto, perhaps, enjoyed all the privileges and immunities to which it was so justly entitled.

In the mean time a great change had taken place in the British cabinet. Lord North, unfortunate in his attempts to subjugate America, and perceiving the storm that was gathering around him, wished to escape its fury, by withdrawing from public affairs. The Marquis of Rockingham, the Duke of Portland, Mr. Fox, Mr. Burke, Mr. Windham, and a number of men, burning with zeal, and professing the most disinterested patriotism, had already hunted the minister into their toils, and were now preparing to divide the spoils of him and his adherents among themselves and followers.

followers. Accordingly, about the end of March 1782, an entire change took place, and the sister kingdom, on this occasion, fell to the share of a nobleman,* who happened at that moment to be one of the most popular men in the kingdom!

This event occurred at a period when the Earl of Carlisle happened to be negociating the repeal of so much of the statute of George I. as affected the legislative independence of Ireland, and was accompanied with some circumstances that rendered his recal particularly disagreeable. The Irish parliament, however, was not unmindful of the services of the viceroy, for after the appointment and arrival of his successor, the house of commons passed the following vote: "That the thanks of this house be presented to the Right Honourable Frederick Earl of Carlisle, for the wisdom and prudence of his administration, and for his uniform and unremitted attention to promote the welfare of this kingdom."† Thus, in consequence of a sudden change in the British cabinet, ended the viceregal government of Lord Carlisle in Ireland; much appears to have been intended in behalf of an oppressed people, and it would be ungenerous to omit, that while something was achieved, the short period of residence, joined to the sudden and unexpected recall, precluded the probability of making and effecting more advantageous changes.

But the demise of that great and disinterested patriot, the Marquis of Rockingham, dissolved all the hopes and projects of his coadjutors; for from

* The Duke of Portland. † Monday, April 15, 1782.

that

that moment a spirit of personal aggrandizement, which had been checked by his numerous virtues, infected their councils, and spread jealousy and suspicion among their ranks. In consequence of the subsequent changes, we find the Earl of Carlisle enjoying the honourable appointment of steward of the household, and he soon after succeeded to the still more dignified and confidential one of lord privy seal. But a variety of important alterations soon after ensued, and it was difficult to preserve a firm footing, amidst the volcanic explosions; but at length the *oily* eloquence of one man, (after sacrificing those sentiments which had constituted the glory of an ingenuous youth, and trampling all the ties of gratitude in the person of the Marquis of Lansdowne, under the hoof of ambition,) smoothed for a while the agitated ocean of politics, until the French revolution became the prognostic of a new and far more portentous storm.

During the disputes that took place relative to the regency, in consequence of the severe illness with which his Majesty was at that period afflicted, Lord Carlisle took an active part in favour of the claims of the Heir-apparent. The opinions of the people were far from being uniform on this subject, either in England or in Ireland; but in the latter kingdom the parliament evinced a decided inclination, to consider the Prince of Wales as a temporary governor, during the incapacity of his father. It was otherwise, however, in England, for although some broadly maintained "that the Prince had the same hereditary right

right to the full exercise of the powers of the royal trust, that he would have had, in the case of the actual demise of the Sovereign;" yet others asserted the converse of this proposition, and spurned at the idea "of an hereditary ownership," as something savouring of the obsolete pretensions, and exploded doctrines of the house of Stuart. A few, who were supposed to have deserted the cause of the people, and never recurred to popular arguments but when it suited the purposes of their ambition, appeared upon this occasion exceedingly tenacious of the rights of the nation; nor did it escape animadversion, that an eloquent commoner,* whose political existence was involved in the decision, boldly proclaimed "that the Prince of Wales had no more right to the regency than any other subject."

When this subject came before the house of peers, (December 23, 1789,) much difference of opinion was known to exist, notwithstanding the conference that had taken place with the other branch of the legislature. Lord Loughborough, now Earl Rosslin, who was supposed to be connected with Mr. Fox and the opposition, objected to the three † resolutions

* Right Hon. William Pitt.

† Resolutions carried in the house of commons, Tuesday, December 16, 1789.

1. That it is the opinion of this committee, that his Majesty is prevented by indisposition from coming to his parliament, and from attending to public business, and that the personal exercise of the royal authority is thereby for the present interrupted. Resolved *nem. con.*

2. That it is the opinion of this committee, that it is the right

which the managers on the part of the commons had delivered, and observed that receiving from the other house a prescribed mode for their conduct, was equally unprecedented and unconstitutional. His lordship adverted also to the report of precedents, as shamefully inaccurate, inapplicable, and defective; he stated two cases in which the parties were considered as infants, whereas they were of full age, and even asserted that several papers had been grossly misrepresented. But, notwithstanding this, the house agreed to proceed, and when the first resolution was put, which amounted merely to a *truism*, viz, " that his Majesty was prevented by indisposition from coming to his parliament, and from attending to public business," &c. Lord Hopetoun rose and observed, that no right, in his opinion, existed any where to assume the functions of royalty at that period; but he added, that there was something mysterious in the third resolution, and that if there was any mode meant

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and duty of the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons of Great Britain, now assembled, and lawfully, fully, and freely representing all the estates of the people of this realm, to provide the means of supplying the defect of the personal exercise of the royal authority, arising from his Majesty's said indisposition, in such manner as the exigency of the case may appear to require.

3. Resolved, That for this purpose, and for maintaining entire the constitutional authority of the King, it is necessary that the said lords and commons should determine on the means whereby the royal assent may be given in parliament to such bills as may be passed by the two houses of parliament, respecting the exercise of the powers and authorities of the crown, in the name, and on the behalf of the King, during the continuance of his Majesty's present indisposition.

to be pursued, except that of appointing the Prince of Wales regent, he should give it his negative.

The Earl of Abingdon declared unequivocally his opinion, "that the Prince of Wales, by the laws and constitution of the land, had no more right to exercise the functions of the crown, than any other person: his right was the right of succession, not of representation; and he defied the stoutest lawyer in the house to controvert his position."

Lord Rawdon, now Earl Moira, moved an amendment; but a venerable peer (Lord Camden), then president of the council, was of opinion, that as the question of *right* had been started, it would be highly improper to evade it. On recurring to precedents, he found the right of filling up any deficiency in the executive government to rest with the two houses of parliament, and with them only, and he quoted the instances of Edward III. and Henry VI.

Lord Stormont, on the other hand, considered the precedents on the table as fit texts for lawyers to descant upon, but utterly unworthy of the deliberation of parliament; the Duke of Richmond, however, supported the resolutions, and Lord Hawkesbury, now Earl of Liverpool, maintained that whatever the Heir-apparent could possess, "must be a delegated, not an original power."

The Earl of Carlisle, in a brief but elegant speech, asserted the claims of the Prince of Wales. It was his lordship's opinion, that as a deficiency in one branch of the legislature had been proved, it was *expedient* that this deficiency should be supplied, and the cir-

cumstances of the present times were fully sufficient to direct the wisdom of parliament how that was to be done, without having recourse to times dissimilar in all circumstances. He deprecated the idea of searching for precedents to influence their proceedings, and as to the "phantom of right," which had been so much contended for, "he considered it as a false light, meant to bewilder, and lead their lordships from the way of their duty, while the whole nation pointed direct to the Heir-apparent." His lordship concluded by warning the peers not to deviate from the true line of their duty, and by hinting, with a truly prophetic spirit, that if they swerved they would not be followed by Ireland. This actually proved the case; for the Irish parliament, as has already been intimated, was entirely of his lordship's opinion on this subject; an event which is supposed to have led to that union which has since ensued. But notwithstanding the legislature of the sister kingdom declared for the unqualified assumption of the reins of government by the first prince of the blood, and a most formidable minority urged his claims in the British house of commons; yet the star which presided over the destiny of Mr. Pitt on that day maintained the ascendant, and such limitations were adopted relative to the powers and influence of the regent, that it at length became a matter of doubt whether his Royal Highness would have deemed the office worthy his acceptance.

In 1791 we find his lordship once more acting in opposition to Mr. Pitt's administration. France was

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at this period disenabled, by her intestine divisions, from annoying us, and the changes which had taken place in her government, prevented her from intriguing, as before, in the various courts of Europe. That system of directing, and even of controuling the neighbouring cabinets, which had been so uniformly and so efficaciously persevered in, ever since the reign of Louis XIV. was now suddenly suspended, and the immense power and influence of the nation was carried back, by a sudden revulsion, from the extremities to the heart.

Mr. Pitt, the minister of England, instead of taking advantage of this interval to strengthen the power and recruit the resources of his native country, in the opinion of some, seemed eager to supply the place of a rival, and acquire a preponderance on the continent. Accordingly the courts of Constantinople, St. Petersburgh, and Madrid, are said to have become, by turns, the theatres of his diplomatic exploits, and we find all Europe put in motion by his restless activity. The consequences were such as might have been expected, from the intervention of a power strictly maritime, and which ought to have been content with a dignified neutrality. We accordingly find the nation incurring great and perhaps unnecessary expences by the Russian and Spanish armaments, on which occasions nothing solid was obtained for the interests of the British empire, in return for the expenditure of her treasure.

At the period we at present allude to, the Turks and Russians were still at war, and the successes of

Catherine II. were such, as seemed to indicate the speedy downfall of the Ottoman empire. This princess however, notwithstanding the masculine ambition with which her mind was unceasingly occupied, perceived that the time was not yet arrived when she could place a successor on the throne of Constantine, and garrison the ancient Byzantium with her armies. She was content, therefore, with the fortress of Oczakow, which would enable her to retain possession of the Crimea, and in case of a future contest, render her efforts more destructive to the enemy. If either the extent of her power, or the multitude of her victories be considered, this proposition, however alarming, must be considered as moderate; but it was thought otherwise by the ministers who presided at that period in the English cabinet, and it was determined that Great Britain should arm, on purpose to oppose the claims of Russia, and vindicate the cause of the Turks.

A message from the king was accordingly brought down to both houses of parliament, on Monday March 28, stating,

"That the endeavours which his Majesty had used, in conjunction with his allies, to effect a pacification between Russia and the Porte, having been hitherto unsuccessful, and the consequences which may arise from the further progress of the war being highly important to the interests of his Majesty and his allies, and to those of Europe in general, his Majesty judges it requisite, in order to add weight to his representation, to make some further augmentation of his naval force; and his Majesty relies on the zeal and attention of the house of commons, that they will be ready to make good such additional expence as may be incurred by those preparations for the purpose of supporting the interest of his

his Majesty's kingdoms, and of contributing to the restoration of general tranquillity, on a secure and lasting foundation."

Many respectable noblemen and gentlemen, in both houses of parliament, were averse from a new war at this particular period, and loudly condemned the impolicy of a contest with a power, which the great Lord Chatham had forcibly designated as "the natural ally of this country."

When the subject was debated in the house of lords * Earl Fitzwilliam strenuously opposed the address of compliance, moved by Lord Grenville; and, after censuring the ministers for keeping the country in the dark relative to the cause of the armament, moved a judicious amendment, stating the most earnest solicitude "to maintain the unassailed tranquillity of his Majesty's dominions, to improve at home the blessings of peace, and to testify a firm reliance on his Majesty's paternal care to preserve uninterrupted that fortunate situation which this country now enjoys of entire amity with all the powers of Europe."

After Lord Stormont and Lord Porchester had cursorily reprobated the silence of ministers, the Earl of Carlisle arose and objected to the original address. He said that, in the course of his parliamentary attendance, he had often witnessed the contemptuous behaviour of the ministry, but never in so insulting a manner as on this occasion. As the matter stood at present, his lordship contended, "that it was impossible for that house to know whether they were then called upon to assist Russia in any of her schemes,

* Tuesday, March 29, 1791.

or to support the Turks? They could not vote the address but upon confidence, and confidence merely; and he begged to know upon what ground ministers called for such confidence? Did they rest their claim upon their conduct last year? By that conduct, and by the subsequent measures, he could not tell whether the armament which had then taken place had really been intended to act against Spain, or to assist Sweden. If the present arrangement was in contemplation when the King's speech was delivered, why did they disarm? Why not use the force they had then afloat? As it was, the fleet had only served to pillage the public, and to make a show between the Isle of Wight and Portsmouth. If we were resolved (added his lordship) to enter into continental alliances, we should have made such as would have been most likely to have proved serviceable to us, and have considered that Russia was the natural ally of this country. We had neglected to cultivate the friendship of the Empress, and now we were going to provoke her still further. If we were entering into a war from necessity, the country would willingly strain every nerve to carry it on, and bring it to a speedy and successful conclusion. No other war would be justifiable; and whether this was a war of necessity, a war in consequence of existing continental alliances, or a war occasioned by the haughtiness and arrogance of ministers, by pursuing a blundering system, the house was as yet unable to determine."

His lordship after this insisted on the gross impolicy of a contest with Russia, and said, that called upon

upon as the noble secretary of state had been, he ought to have given an answer; but that it had been the plan of the present ministers to treat that house with less respect than any of their predecessors in office: he then reprobated their conduct, and, after enquiring if their present system was sanctioned by any specific article of any existing treaty, he concluded with declaring that he would support the amendment that had been proposed by his noble friend.

On the question being put, Lord Fitzwilliam's amendment was negatived without a division, and although the house divided on the question itself, yet it was carried by a majority of nearly three to one; the number of *contents*, including proxies, amounted to ninety-seven, whereas the *not contents* was only thirty-four.

The ministers also were triumphant in the house of commons, and a war appeared inevitable; but the country was fortunately aroused to a due sense of its danger, and the petitions and remonstrances of the merchants and manufacturers, added to the matchless eloquence and pertinacious integrity of one man,* saved the empire from this new calamity.

On another subject, which soon after engaged the attention of parliament and the nation, Lord Carlisle also shewed himself hostile to the administration of the day. As it appeared to be the fate of Mr. Pitt to be continually involved in broils, either at home or abroad, no sooner was England permitted to pause from useless and unproductive contests with Russia and Spain,

* Mr. Fox.

than

than India became the scene of new commotions. The sudden rise of the British power in the east had been a subject of astonishment to all the native powers, and it was thought by many keen-sighted politicians that the superstructure was by far too lofty for the base. Lord Clive, an extraordinary man, who united in his own person great political with great military talents, and rose from being an inferior clerk to the rank and dignity of commander in chief, early foresaw the mischief arising from the extension of the Company's territories. He accordingly restored the dominions of a conquered prince, for the express purpose of keeping up the balance of power, and reinstated Sujah Dowlah,* on purpose to maintain the barrier that had been formed against the Mahrattas. The court of directors had recommended a similar policy in respect to the Nizam and Hyder Ally; but a new plan of operations began now to be adopted, the propriety of which may still be doubted, notwithstanding its temporary success.

The Dutch having sold two forts, Cranganore and Jacottah, possessed by them in the dominions of Tippoo, to the Rajah of Travancore, with whom they had entered into an alliance offensive and defensive, the sovereign of Arcot immediately marched at the head of his army and menaced revenge. As

* Extract of a letter from Lord Clive to the court of Directors, dated Sept. 30, 1765.——"Our restoring to Sujah Dowlah the whole of his dominions, proceeds more from the policy of not extending the Company's territorial possessions, than the generous principle of attaching him for ever to our interest by gratitude."

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this afforded a plausible opportunity to reduce the power of the Sultaun, the English forces were immediately put in motion, and a long and destructive war ensued. It being supposed by many that the board of controul had countenanced this measure, by means of *hypothetical orders*, the moment the subject engaged the attention of parliament, (Saturday, April 9, 1791) Lord Porchester, after a long and elaborate speech, moved three* resolutions in the house of peers, with a view of putting an end to the war in Asia. It is not a little remarkable, that all the lords who spoke upon this occasion seemed most cordially to assent to the first resolution, which served to record the impolicy of those very "schemes of conquest and extension of dominion in India," in which the war was supposed to have originated; and indeed the chief objection against the other two seemed to consist in the fear of attaching blame to the conduct of the Marquis Cornwallis, then governor-general of Bengal.

The Earl of Carlisle, upon this occasion, agreed in

* 1. "That schemes of conquest and extension of dominion in India are measures repugnant to the wish, honour, and policy of the nation.

2. "That there appears to be no just cause for a war with Tippoo Sultaun, nor for the treaties of partition of his dominions, entered into with the Nizam of the Mahrattas; and the war, even if attended with the utmost success, cannot prove advantageous to the East India Company's affairs in India.

3. "That it is the opinion of this house, that it is the duty of the Directors of the East India Company, and of the Board of Controul, to transmit such orders to the Company's servants in India, as may most speedily procure peace with Tippoo Sultaun, on moderate and equal terms."

opinion

opinion with the Lords Stormont and Porchester in reprobating the idea of a new war in India. Instead of attacking the Mysore, he was of opinion that it ought rather to have been defended, "as he had always believed that Tippoo Sultaun was our natural ally, and the Mahrattas our natural enemy." With respect to our possessions in India, the earl intimated his belief that Bengal was the only one we had, or ought to have, in that quarter of the globe, and questioned "whether the remainder were to be considered as a resource in case of need, or as a millstone about the neck of the country."

After blaming the idea of an extension of territory in Asia, and doubting, in the words of Lord Chatham, whether the Company and the whole of their trade was a bubble or not, he recommended it to the manufacturing and commercial interests to weigh the renewal of the charter. His lordship concluded with an elegant panegyric on Lord Cornwallis, "with whom he had lived in an uninterrupted intimacy and friendship for a term of thirty-four years, whose amiable manners, and calm conciliating turn of mind he was well acquainted with, and could not compliment too highly, although he at the same time disdained every species of flattery.

"He had some title to speak of him now, because he was the very person who persuaded and prevailed upon his lordship to undertake the arduous task, at a time when he knew of no other that was fit for it, although he was sensible it was against Lord Cornwallis's inclination, and perhaps not for his advantage,

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as his ambition and military ardour might have been more highly gratified by professional pursuits, had he gone to Canada. The time he was to remain in India had been fixed before he went out; but since he had been there, we had seen him, not acting in one capacity only, but in a variety of different situations; his conduct on all and each of these occasions, would be found no doubt to be fully justifiable, and until he could be heard he ought not to be censured."

The final event of this war proved far different, however, to what had been expected, for Tippoo was at length obliged to sue for peace under the walls of Seringapatam; and on the renewal of the contest soon after, his own death, joined to the complete ruin of the house of Hyder, destroyed a formidable enemy to the British power in India. But although the partition of the Mysorean dominions encreased the territories of the East India Company, and enriched a multitude of its servants, yet the allies came in also for their share, and have now, in their turn, become formidable rivals: it is pretty obvious, therefore, that the system of moderation recommended by the noble earl, and the minority in the house of peers, upon this occasion, would have been true policy, as it is now demonstrable, that the accession of territory has never added to the prosperity of a trading company, and that its empire in India chiefly depends, at this moment, as before, on the thread of opinion, and the mutual jealousies of the surrounding states.

We find Lord Carlisle still continuing in opposition to the ministers at this period at the head of affairs,

affairs, and even joining in a vote for their censure. By this time the gross impolicy of a contest with Russia had become evident, and the cabinet incurred no small portion of blame on account of their conduct upon that occasion. As this was deemed a proper opportunity to condemn if not to remove them, Lord Porchester, (Monday, February 27, 1792) accordingly moved in the house of peers, "that his Majesty's ministers have abused the confidence reposed in them by this house, in an address of the 29th of March last, communicated to us, upon the representation of the necessity of making an addition to the naval force of the kingdom, for the purpose of supporting the interests of these kingdoms, and of contributing to the great and important object of restoring the tranquillity of Europe on a secure and lasting foundation, by continuing at a great expence, and with great hardship to the British seamen, the preparation of that force, after they had determined *not to employ it*; but to close with the conditions offered by the court of Petersburgh, so early as the 26th of May 1790, repeated frequently, and invariably adhered to, by that court, which they have since accepted as sufficient to support the interests of these kingdoms, and to restore the tranquillity of Europe, on a secure and lasting foundation."

After the motion had been supported by Lord Moira, in a long and eloquent speech, Lord Carlisle arose, and in consequence of some allusions which had been made to the happy form of the English government, observed,

"That he was ready to join in the panegyric, for the constitution of England was one of the most perfect that ancient or modern times

times could boast: but what would all the eloquent speeches that ever were delivered in that house, in praise of the constitution, or all the best writings on the same subject, avail, if there was not a public conviction of its excellence? In what did that excellence principally consist?—in maintaining that proper degree of jealousy and vigilance in watching the conduct of ministers, in the freedom of debate, and in the demarcation of that confidence, which he was ready to allow that ministers, on certain great and momentous occasions, had a right to expect, and which, however party might run, would, he was certain, never be denied to them.

"But was this the case in the present instance? Would their lordships agree to the debate on the Russian armament, on the 29th of March last? His Majesty sends down a message to that house, informing them of his intention to interfere in the contention between the Turks and Russians: that message was followed by a dutiful and loyal address: ministers demanded the money and confidence of parliament; they got both; they launched their bark, they spread their canvass, and their lordships filled it with gales. A pretty voyage they made of it, they had not sailed far, before they espied a cloud in the offing, scarce the size of a man's head: they were alarmed at the sight of it, and changed their course: but a noble Duke (Leeds) whom he would beg leave to call his friend, was not alarmed at that little cloud; and when he found they would not pursue that steady course which they had first agreed upon, he gave them up to their fate.

"And what was the result? What trophies did they gain? Let the papers on the table, let their own silence, let their total want of argument tell. He would venture to anticipate, that they could not advance one sound or plausible argument in justification of their conduct. Experience might have taught them some prudence; the affair of Spain ought to have made some impression on their minds. Limitations were their object. The high tone with which they spoke on these affairs, re-echoed in that house for some time after it was delivered; and what was the limitation? why, they were not permitted to fish within twenty leagues of that shore which was free to them before: this was putting on fetters with a witness. What was the next limit, the district of Oczakow? His lordship dwelt on these points for some time, to shew that ministry had completely failed in their interference.

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"It had been stated, that we were bound in honour to our ally, the King of Prussia. He would not contradict that; and he supposed that tie of honour or gratitude alluded to the affair of Holland: but could it be fairly stated, that we had discharged any part of that debt of honour, or gratitude, in the part we had taken? There was one thing, however, which he was ready to thank ministry for, and he believed it was the only thing that could be advanced in their defence, which was, that, having once obtained the armament which was raised and continued unnecessarily, they did not pursue some wild scheme in some other part of the world. Having dwelt on the absurdity of the armament, the inefficacy of its operations, the disgrace it must bring on this nation in the eyes of others, the loss that our commerce must have sustained in that interval, the regret that every human breast must feel, in being reduced to have recourse to the mode of impressing seamen, the additional burthens laid on the subject, scarce able to stand under them at present, and the delusive hopes held out to the Porte, he concluded by saying, that he should vote for the proposition."

Nor was his lordship, in a constitutional point of view only, averse from the measures of the cabinet of that day, for he was eager to oppose every scheme, either on their part, or that of any of their adherents, which did not appear to him to be fraught with advantage to the public. Accordingly, when Lord Grenville (June 5, 1792) moved the order of the day, on the bill "for the further increase and preservation of timber within the New Forest, in the county of Southampton, and for the sale of rents, and the enfranchisement of copyhold tenements in the said forests," this was openly and ably disapproved of by the subject of these memoirs, "who regarded the present bill as a measure that could fairly be said to be neither more nor less than a *job*, in favour of a clerk at their table, who was at the same time secretary to the

the treasury, under the pretence of providing timber for the royal navy; and it was under that impression that his Majesty (the readiest of princes to give up advantages of his own for the benefit of his people) had been prevailed on to assent to this measure; but his goodness and paternal affection had been abused in this instance."

His lordship was not singular in his opinions upon this occasion, for he was ably supported by the Lords Porchester and Moira; even the chancellor expressed a decided hostility to the scheme, so that the motion for the second reading was only carried by a majority of eighteen.

Soon after this period, Earl Fitzwilliam, who possessed a large stake in that country, had been sent to Ireland, for the purpose of quieting the minds of the people, removing the disaffection then beginning to prevail, and rendering the government of England popular in that unhappy and distracted country. Nor were the ministers disappointed in their expectations, for no sooner did the patriotic party receive intimation that the long projected measure of catholic emancipation was about to be carried into effect, than they entered heartily into the war against France.

But this was not all, for the parliament, with an unanimity hitherto unknown, voted liberal and unexampled supplies for carrying on the contest, and during an administration of a very few months, this popular viceroy obtained a loan of one million seven hundred thousand pounds, taxes to the amount of near two hundred thousand pounds, a sum of money for

seamen equal to two hundred thousand pounds more, besides a vote of forty-three thousand men, including the army and militia. And while the rich thus became taxed to supply the necessities of the state, the mass of the people were benefited, for the poor were relieved from the tax of hearth-money, a multitude of abuses in the expenditure of the public treasure were detected and reformed, and such men as were supposed to have lost the confidence of their country, were dismissed from office.

But this upright viceroy was recalled in the midst of his triumphant career, and all those whom he had discharged from lucrative and confidential offices, were soon after reinstated. On this Earl Fitzwilliam addressed a letter to his old friend the Earl of Carlisle, in which he explained all the motives of his conduct, and detailed the principal events of his administration. It was soon after published in Dublin, and a reply of thirteen pages, printed in London, appeared in the course of a short time after, from which it seemed evident that the sentiments of the two noble lords were not exactly in unison with respect to Irish affairs.

Lord Carlisle began by mentioning the early friendship, and continued respect that prevailed on his part, but it was evident, at the same time, that he did not altogether agree in point of opinion with his noble friend, for he frankly observed "that he had adopted a system difficult to recede from or abandon before he had been long enough near the source of real information, confidently to take by his own scale the just measure of its size and magnitude." Both of these pamphlets

pamphlets occasioned a considerable sensation at the time; the former was reprinted both in England and in Ireland, and the latter passed through two, if not three editions.

No sooner had a war with France taken place, that menaced his native country with the most serious evils, than Earl Carlisle declining the ranks of opposition, ranged himself on the side of his Majesty's ministers, and contributed every thing in his power to give efficacy to their measures. It is not meant by this to insinuate, that his lordship approved *all* their plans; on the contrary, it is but rational to conclude, that many of them appeared fraught with impolicy; but he, perhaps, deemed this an improper opportunity to exhibit any thing in the shape of hostility. Indeed, the whole course of his parliamentary career has been marked by candour, and we find nothing harsh, personal, or illiberal, in his deportment as a legislator.

It now remains to speak of Lord Carlisle as a votary of the Muses. We have already hinted that he was inspired with, and cultivated a taste for poetry, at a very early period of life; indeed, if we are rightly informed, he may be said to "have lisped in numbers." Many of these compositions stole into two publications of the day, destined for the reception of fugitive pieces; the one called "The Foundling Hospital for Wit;" the other, "The Asylum," both published by Mr. Almon; and we recollect to have perused several of them with pleasure. Four poems, written by his lordship, were published in 1773, in a quarto edition; the first of these consisted of an ode on the death of

Mr. Gray; the second and third, of verses destined for the monument of a favourite spaniel; and the fourth, of a translation from Dante, one of the earliest and most obscure of the Italian poets.

In 1801 appeared a splendid edition, from the press of Bulmer, of "the Tragedies and Poems of Frederick Earl of Carlisle, Knight of the Garter," &c. a copy of which now lies open before us; and on this occasion we shall invert the usual order, and speak of the first last. The "Ode on the death of Gray" appears to have been written in 1771, at a period when the noble author had scarcely attained his twenty-third year, and contains a recapitulation of all the works of that rapture-breathing bard; such as his "Elegy in a Country Church-yard; the Bard, a Pindaric Ode; the Progress of Poetry; Ode on a distant Prospect of Eton College; and Hymn to Adversity." On this occasion the youthful poet has endeavoured at once to commemorate the merits of the author, and also, in some measure, to imitate his numbers.

I.

"What spirit's that which mounts on high,
Borne on the arms of every tuneful Muse?
His white robes flutter to the gale:
They wing their way to yonder opening sky;
In glorious state through yielding clouds they sail,
And scents of heav'nly flowers on earth diffuse.

II.

"What avails the Poet's art?
What avails his magic hand?
Can he arrest Death's pointed dart,
Or charm to sleep his murderous band?

Well

Well I know thee, gentle shade,
That tuneful voice, that eagle eye—
Quick bring me flowers that ne'er shall fade,
The laurel-wreath that ne'er shall die;
With every honour deck his funeral bier,
For he to every Grace, and every Muse was dear!

III.

"The listening Dryad, with attention still,
On tiptoe oft would near the Poet steal,
To hear him sing, upon the lonely hill,
Of all the wonders of the expanded vale;
The distant hamlet, and the winding stream,
The steeple shaded by the friendly yew,
Sunk in the wood, the sun's departing gleam,
The gray-rob'd landscape stealing from the view.
Or, wrapt in solemn thought, and pleasing woe*,
O'er each low tomb he breath'd his pious strain,
A lesson to the village swain,
And taught the tears of rustic grief to flow!
But soon with bolder note, and wilder flight,†
O'er the loud strings his rapid hand would run;—
Mars has lit his torch of war,
Ranks of heroes fill the sight!
Hark! the carnage is begun!
And see the Furies through the fiery air,
O'er Cambria's frighten'd land, the screams of horror bear!"

The second is a translation from Dante, canto xxviii. containing an account of Count Ugolino. This nobleman having entered into a conspiracy with the archbishop Ruggiero to depose the governor of Pisa, and succeeded in the enterprize, the inhuman prelate, jealous of the power of his coadjutor, incited the people against him, confined him in a tower with

* Elegy written in a Country Church-yard.

† The Bard, a Pindaric Ode.

his four sons, and to preclude the possibility of escape or release, threw the key into the Arno.

The third consists of verses addressed to a lady, with a present of flowers from the Cape of Good Hope; and the fourth is addressed to Mrs. Isabella Pitt, on purpose to commemorate a noble and disinterested action: the next is inscribed to Sir Joshua Reynolds, on his resignation of the president's chair of the Royal Academy; this is one of his lordship's best poetical productions, and while it conveys a most delicate compliment, at a critical and interesting moment, at the same time exhibits a *gusto* for the fine arts. The kind but dignified manner too in which the peer treats the painter, reminds us of the last meeting between Francis I. and Leonardo di Vinci.

"Too wise for contest, and too meek for strife,
Like Lear, oppress'd by those you rais'd to life,
Thy sceptre broken, thy dominion o'er,
The curtain falls, and thou'rt a king no more.
Still, near the wreck of thy demolish'd state,
Truth, and the weeping Muse, with me shall wait;
Science shall teach Britannia's self to moan,
And make, O injured friend! thy wrongs her own."

After a handsome compliment to the painter, who had first *pierced the gloom where England's Genius slept*, the poet proceeds as follows:

"Dark was the hour, the age an age of stone,
When Hudson claim'd an empire of his own;
And, from the time, when, darting rival light,
Vandyke and Rubens cheer'd our northern night,
Those twin stars set, the Graces all had fled,
Yet paus'd to hover o'er a Lely's head;
And sometimes bent, when urg'd with earnest prayer,
To make the gentle Kneller all their care:

But

But ne'er with smiles to gaudy Verrio turn'd;
No happy incense on his altars burn'd.
" O witness, Windsor, thy too passive walls,
Thy tortur'd cielings, thy insulted halls!
Lo! England's glory, Edward's conquering son,
Cover'd with spoils from Poictiers bravely won;
Yet no white plumes, no arms of sable hue,
Mark the young hero to our ravish'd view;
In buskin trim, and laurell'd helmet bright,
A well-dress'd Roman meets our puzzled sight.
And Gallia's captive king, how strange his doom,
A Roman, too, perceives himself become!"

The instructor and friend of Pope,

" Jervas! whom heav'n and not a master taught,"

is here treated according to his just deserts, while the too close resemblances drawn by the cold and laborious pencil of Denner, are objected to by this and every other man of taste. The comparative triplet made use of upon this occasion is at once happy and appropriate:

" As wax-work figures always shock the sight,
Too near to human flesh and shape, affright,
And when they best are form'd, afford the least delight."

The prophecy that the contemporary artists would, on reflection, mourn the loss of their president, has been since fully accomplished; but it is impossible to avoid lamenting that our noble author should have concluded this pretty little poem with a line from Churchill, as it exhibits an appearance of penury, wholly inconsistent with his acknowledged talents.

In this collection there is only one song which we believe was originally addressed to Lady Caroline

Gower, now the Countess of Carlisle, to whom his lordship was married March 22, 1770:

"Oh fling away that foolish flower,
Spoiling the perfume of a breast
That wants no scent of meaner power
To make its sweetness be confess'd."

"Naworth Castle, a Fragment," is an attempt at blank verse, in which the noble author, after describing the horrors of those ruthless times, when

"Science slept intomb'd,"

by a sudden transition turns to modern improvements, and exhibits the contrast of a country, where

"——the plantation, gay with different tints,
Drives its new shadow o'er the wondering lake."

The last article consists of "lines found written upon a window at Calais:"

"Eure veni, tua jamdudum exoptata morantur
Flamina: te poscit votis, precibusque viator, &c."

We are not informed by whom these verses were originally written, but we are certain that he was an Englishman.

We now come to the two tragedies composed by Lord Carlisle, and shall take them in the same order in which they are printed. "The Father's Revenge" is founded on an incident so interwoven with our passions, and followed by a punishment so disproportionate to the offence, that human nature shudders at the catastrophe. The scenery, consisting of palaces, gothic chapels, &c. with a view of Mount Vesuvius in the back ground, is grand, suitable to the occasion, and calculated to inspire awe; while the dramatic characters,

characters, composed of a lovely princess, in the person of Sigismunda; a venerable and respectable priest, in that of the archbishop; a gallant soldier, in that of Guiscard; a brave but fallen prince, in that of Hassan; and a bold but capricious tyrant, in that of Tancred, are formed to keep up the interest, and prepare the mind for some important event. In act 4, scene 1, there is a beautiful passage unnoticed by Dr. Johnson,* in which a degenerate son, succeeding a god-like father, is finely compared to the darkness of night after the effulgence of the sun. We shall give the whole:

* The Earl of Carlisle having written a tragedy, entitled "The Father's Revenge," some of his lordship's friends applied to Mrs. Chapone to prevail on Dr. Johnson to read and give his opinion of it, which he accordingly did in a letter to that lady. Sir Joshua Reynolds having informed me that this letter was in Lord Carlisle's possession, though not fortunate enough in having the honour of being known to his lordship, trusting to the general courtesy of literature, I wrote to him, requesting the favour of a copy of it, and to be permitted to insert it in my life of Dr. Johnson. His lordship was so good as to comply with my request, and has thus enabled me to enrich my work with a very fine piece of writing, which displays at once the critical skill and politeness of my illustrious friend; and perhaps the curiosity which it will excite, may induce the noble and elegant author to gratify the world by the publication of a performance, of which Dr. Johnson has spoken in such terms:

TO MRS. CHAPONE.

"MADAM,

"By sending the tragedy to me a second time,† I think that a very honourable distinction has been shewn me, and I did not delay the perusal of which I am now to tell the effect.

"The

† Dr. Johnson having been very ill when the tragedy was first sent to him, had declined the consideration of it.

" *Archbishop.* But how wears the morn?
" *Anselmo.* So quick, that, ere our rites shall be perform'd,
Your brother's crowded palace will receive
The adulating herd, prepared to light
Their pois'nous incense on his natal day,
Striving who first shall change the rising curse
Into base flattery, and impious worship.
" *Archb.* You do forget he was great William's son.
" *Ansel.* In truth I do: I would that Tancred's virtues
Would oftener call that god-like hero back!
'Tis better to forget those happier days;
Our people's chains sit lighter, when they cease
To dream of freedom past: the night of hell
Was doubly black to the rebellious angels,
Because they once had shared the radiant blaze
Of heaven's eternal day!"

" The construction of the play is not completely regular; the stage is too often vacant, and the scenes are not sufficiently connected. This, however, would be called by Dryden only a mechanical defect, which takes away little from the power of the poem, and which is seen rather than felt.

" A rigid examiner of the diction might, perhaps, wish some words changed, and some lines more vigorously terminated. But from such petty imperfections what writer was ever free?

" The general form and force of the dialogue is of more importance. It seems to want that quickness of reciprocation which characterizes the English drama, and is not always sufficiently fervid or animated.

" Of the sentiments, I remember not one that I wished omitted. In the imagery, I cannot forbear to distinguish the comparison of joy succeeding grief to light rushing on the eye accustomed to darkness. It seems to have all that can be desired to make it please. It is new, just, and delightful.*

" With

---

* " I could have borne my woes; that stranger joy
Wounds while it smiles:—the long-imprison'd wretch,
Emerging from the night of his damp cell,
Shrinks from the sun's bright beams; and that which flings
Gladness o'er all, to him is agony."

We shall select two or three more quotations: the first is from the speech of Monforti, in which, before the failure of his conspiracy, he thus characterizes the populace:

" ———The gull'd fools
Believe I love them. They are indeed the waves,
And while they bear us, we must court their favour,
Until we gain the port; unheeded then,
To the wide ocean they again may flow;
Lost and forgotten midst their kindred waters."

On being detected, he mourns "the stings of conscious guilt," and exclaims:

"————————O, Raimond, had I
Been never born, Salerno's realms had known
A milder sway. I poison'd Tancred's nature,
Dash'd the fair scale of Justice on the ground,
Scourg'd Mercy from his throne, and placed about it
The weakest centinels a prince can trust to,—
Hate, Fear, and Pride. I was that envious shade,
Through

"With the characters, either as conceived or preserved, I have no fault to find; but was much inclined to congratulate a writer who, in defiance of prejudice and fashion, made the archbishop a good man, and scorned all thoughtless applause, which a vicious churchman would have brought him.

"The catastrophe is affecting. The father and daughter both culpable, both wretched, and both penitent, divide between them our pity and our sorrow.

"Thus, Madam, I have performed what I did not willingly undertake, and could not decently refuse. The noble writer will be pleased to remember, that sincere criticism ought to raise no resentment, because judgment is not under the controul of will; but involuntary criticism, as it has still less of choice, ought to be more remote from the possibility of offence.

I am, &c.

Nov. 28, 1783. SAM. JOHNSON."

Boswell's Life of Johnson, page 470. *vol. II.*

Through which the sun-beams never pierc'd—the night,
In whose thick damp all the foul passions gender'd,
That with the adder's venom'd tooth, crept forth,
And stung an injur'd people into madness.
I was that wizard, conjuring up all ill,
Myself invisible, while Tancred drew
On his less guilty head his people's hatred.
But now I fall, in my own wiles ensnared,
The victim of my guilt."

The last passage is taken from an interview between the king and his near relation the prelate:

"*Tanc.* Know, brother,
These taunts but ill become you. Must I kneel
Fore a monk's consist'ry? Is that the bar
Where I must plead, and justify my actions?

"*Archb.* No, Tancred, no; yet there's a judgment-seat
Where purple kings, high as their full-blown pride
Or flattery can set them, must be summon'd:
'Tis in their subjects' rigorous inquisition
They may forestall the more tremendous process
That waits beyond the grave. Thinkst thou thy people,
Because they bear, don't feel their injuries?"

The other dramatic performance we are now to mention is "the Step-Mother," a tragedy of five acts. The plot of this is less involved than that of the former; but the catastrophe is equally shocking: in the one we behold a parent presenting the heart fresh torn from the bosom of her lover, to the agonized sight of a distracted daughter; in the other, we find a father and a son, instigated by a cruel and revengeful woman, inflicting mutual death! In both cases the scene, perhaps, is too afflicting even for a representation in this country, although the French have repeatedly

repeatedly accused us of covering the stage with corpses.

On this occasion too his lordship has had recourse to "these aërial beings, whose powers, as described in the songs of the ancient northern nations, were first employed by our Shakespeare," and by the intervention of servants, and the *buffo* character of Peres, a physician, converted the piece into a tragi-comedy.

We have thus, in addition to an account of the illustrious author, indulged in a long and descriptive catalogue of his works; but no apology is required upon this occasion, for while the Earl of Carlisle, in imitation of some of the greatest men of the last age, pursues the career of literature, we are anxious to follow at a distance, and pointing to the gaol, hold him up to the example and imitation of our nobility.

GEORGE ISAAC HUNTINGFORD, D. D.

LORD BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER.

ONE advantage, and that of no inconsiderable consequence, attending an ecclesiastical establishment like that in England, is the encouragement it holds out to pre-eminent virtue and talents. The levelling system would in a great measure destroy that powerful incentive to learning which arises from the prospect of preferment. If we examine attentively the catalogue of prelates who have graced the hierarchy in this kingdom, since the Reformation, we shall find that by far the greater part arose to that distinction solely through

through their personal merits, and, comparatively speaking, from the humbler walks of life.

To the honour of the present administration, we have observed them exercising their patronage, in the disposal of the higher ecclesiastical dignities, with the most marked and liberal regard to distinguished piety and learning. This has been strikingly instanced in the promotion of a Vincent to the deanry of Westminster, and of a Burgess and a Huntingford to the sees of St. David's and Gloucester. Of the last mentioned prelate we shall here attempt to give a brief but correct biographical sketch.

George Isaac Huntingford, D. D. who now fills so honourably the chair which was once occupied by the Herculean and haughty Warburton, was born of respectable parents in the city of Winchester, in the year 1748. He received his grammatical education in the school founded by that magnificent patron of learning, William of Wykeham; but though he successively filled the stations of sub-preceptor, usher, and master in that venerable seminary, yet he was never upon the foundation. So great was his proficiency, and correct his deportment, that at the early age of eighteen he was appointed an instructor in the school of Winchester. His academical studies were pursued, as usual, at New College, Oxford, where he proceeded to his degrees in arts, and on being elected fellow became an eminent tutor, having among other eminent persons, the present chancellor of the exchequer for a pupil. As an assistant to the amiable Joseph Warton, with whom he always lived on the happiest terms,

terms, he conducted Winchester school with distinguished honour to the teachers, and advantage to those who had the benefit of their instructions.

Upon the death of his brother, Dr. Thomas Huntingford, he was nominated to succeed him in the living and mastership of the school of Warminster, in Wiltshire. At the same time he took his brother's widow and seven fine children to live with him; two of the latter are since married, one to Gorges Lowther Esq. M.P. and the other to Stonhouse Vigur, Esq. of the family of Mr. Vansittart, and grandson of the late reverend Sir James Stonhouse, Bart.

This Dr. Thomas Huntingford was a man of extensive erudition, and of the most refined taste. He shewed the latter in the many improvements which he commenced at his residence in Warminster; though, it must be confessed, his prudence may be called in question, as he thereby considerably diminished his property.

Another brother of the bishop's is Mr. James Huntingford, in the profession of the law; a gentleman eminently distinguished by a vigorous understanding and extensive information. Several of the public institutions in the metropolis, principally of a benevolent nature, are indebted to him either for their origin, or for the flourishing state of their circumstances. He has been for several years occupied on an undertaking of great magnitude and importance, a "Digest of the Statute Laws," on a new plan. In this vast and seemingly impracticable design he has laboured with astonishing assiduity; and amongst his

subscribers

subscribers we observe enrolled nearly all the bishops, judges, temporal lords, and other distinguished personages in the realm, besides the universities and corporations.

To return to the bishop. Though he is a man, unquestionably, of strong and active mind, he has never manifested any ardent wish for preferment. In the mastership of Winchester school he succeeded, of course, on the resignation of Dr. Warton, and afterwards obtained, which seems to have been his utmost ambition, the wardenship of the college, worth about the annual value of twelve hundred pounds.

However, his friend Mr. Addington could not pass by his modest, unassuming, and unsoliciting merits unrewarded; and on the translation of Dr. Beaden to the see of Bath and Wells, Dr. Huntingford was nominated without his knowlege to that of Gloucester. But the situation he held at Winchester was more congenial to his love of tranquillity, and habits of life; to render the preferment, therefore, the more agreeable to him, he was permitted to hold the wardenship with the bishopric. His lordship is unmarried, and when the circumstance has been mentioned to him, with some degree of surprise, he has jocularly turned towards the children of his deceased brother, and asked whether he had not already a sufficient family?

In return, the children naturally regard him as their parent; while their mother, by her care and attention, contributes not a little to his ease and enjoyment.

From

From this pleasing scene, which places his lordship in the most amiable and honourable point of view, we turn to consider him in his prominent character as a scholar and divine. In Grecian literature he may perhaps be equalled by a few, but certainly is not excelled by any in the present day. His introduction to the writing of Greek, in two parts, 8vo, bound together, though an elementary book, does infinite credit to the author, and is of inestimable value to learners and teachers.

But his principal credit as a scholar rests upon his Μετρικα τινα Μονοστροφικα, *Metrica quædam Monostrophica*, published in 1783. This work consists of thirty-one Greek odes, all evincing an elegant taste, a minute acquaintance with the best classical writers, and a skill and judgment rarely to be found in the imitators of ancient models. The merit of these poems was handsomely acknowledged by a very learned Critic in the Monthly Review, who also entered into a most rigid and particular inquisition of them. The remarks of the ingenious reviewer, who is known to have been Dr. Charles Burney, of Greenwich, were in general just, though it seems as if there were throughout a studied design to find and expose flaws with rather too much of the microscopic spirit of criticism. However, it is but fair to observe, that much praise was bestowed on the author in summing up the evidence upon his work, and the following handsome apology is too honourable both to the author and the critic to be omitted here.

"We think (says the reviewer) that no apology is necessary to Mr. Huntingford for the mode which we have adopted in our

criticism; and as our remarks may in some measure tend to promote the cause of literature, let them not be condemned as nugatory. Let it be remembered that H. Stephens wrote a professed treatise on the Latinity of Lipsius; that Dawes corrected his own Greek translation of Paradise Lost; the learned Toup his emendations on Suidas; and that modern scholars discover defects in the justly admired verses of Buchanan, and in the Greek of Politian.

"We despise cavilling, and are superior to petulance. We have formed a high opinion of Mr. Huntingford's character from his writings, and we naturally expect a great degree of candour from good sense and solid learning. We have, therefore, made our remarks with some attention; and in the defiance of their errors, we recommend these *Metrica Monostrophica* to all the admirers of ancient literature.

"To the student, these poems will afford assistance in his pursuits: they will correct his taste, excite his industry, and inspire his emulation:

——— Jamdudum invadere magnum
Mens agitat mihi. VIRG. ÆN. 9.

"To the learned they will be sources of real and rational entertainment. Let not the detection of faults deter them from the investigation of beauties. Let them listen to the words of the Muse at the conclusion of the twenty-fifth poem:

Αγαθον βροτοισι τȣτο
Διδομεν φιλȣσι τεχνων,
Ετερȣς φιλειν τον αλλον.

"On the whole, we cannot help congratulating Winchester school on the able successor it will find in our author, when Warton, full of years and honours, retires from that post, which he fills at present with so much credit to himself, and with approbation so universal: "Ecce tibi exortus est Isocrates, magister illorum omnium, cujus æ ludo, tanquam ex equo Trojano, meri principes exierunt.—*Cic. de Orat. II.*"

Monthly Review, Aug. 1783.

Mr. Huntingford, however, was not quite satisfied with these compliments, conceiving, as he did, that the preceding criticisms were more severe than just. In

In the year following was printed "An Apology for the *Monostrophics*," which were published in 1782, with a second collection of monostrophics, octavo. This volume, which is affectionately dedicated to Mr. Addington, is written in an admirable spirit: Literary disputes have too generally been conducted with anger, contempt, and ill language; and when the war has been merely about *words*, and *syllables*, the contention has been the fiercest. Here the case was happily the reverse, as the reviewer himself thus candidly acknowledged in the outset of his criticism, or rather his reply: (*Monthly Review*, April 1785.)

"As we proceeded (says the writer,) frequently did we pause to admire the extreme candour of the author; and though our positions were often (and sometimes, perhaps, unjustly) disputed, yet we freely bestowed our sincere commendations on his taste and his learning; and now, without hesitation, we declare, that we do not remember to have read in any literary dispute, a reply written with so much temper, and such unaffected moderation; or to have seen imputed faults defended with so little ostentation of knowlege, and criticisms repelled with so few signs of the irritability of an author.

"In a disputant, such a character is rendered highly valuable by there being so few who have strength of mind or goodness of heart enough to deserve it. It is, indeed, a melancholy reflection, that no men are so easily exasperated as authors: however respectable they may be for their virtues, however eminent for their learning, all their amiable qualities seem to vanish in a moment, if any hardy critic dare to censure their works, or to suspect their abilities; and in their haste to defend their reputation as *authors*, they too commonly forget how much they endanger their characters as *men*. To mention instances is nearly useless. Who can doubt, when the quarrels of Erasmus and Scaliger, of Salmasius and Heraldus, are mentioned? Who can doubt, when he considers the acrimony of Boyle's reply to Bentley, the disputes of Burman and

Le Clerc, and of Pauer and D'Orville? Let our readers then join us in our tribute of praise to Mr. Huntingford, who in the work before us must ever be considered as an example of candour, worthy the study of every future critic, and the careful imitation of every literary disputant."

The simple question between these very learned men was this, whether modern imitators of the Greeks are at liberty to adopt any modes of expression, and combinations of quantity, of which examples can be found in early Grecian literature? Mr. Huntingford, in his compositions, availed himself of this privilege, and thought himself justified in so doing, while his reviewer rigidly exposed and condemned many of these liberties, though supported by very high authorities. Notwithstanding the review of the "Apology" was carried through four numbers, and in each to an extraordinary length, yet the whole was conducted in a spirit of dignified liberality, and to the scholar will always afford a rich entertainment.

Of the second Συλλογη of *Monostrophica* appended to the "Apology," the learned critic observes, that "they are, in general, more correct than the former odes, and are seldom inferior to them in poetical merit."

Besides these works, the bishop is advantageously known as the author of, 1. Interpretatio Ποικιλης Ἱστοριας, *Novâ Methodo Constructa*, a school-book of merit. 2. Two volumes of Sermons in octavo. 3. Some single Sermons on public occasions.

Here it would be unjust to omit noticing a very vigorous and most eloquent discourse delivered by his lordship in St. James's Church, Westminster, April 24,

24, 1803, for the benefit of that noble institution, the Royal Humane Society. In this excellent sermon he has combated atheism by the most convincing arguments, particularly overthrowing the wretched notion that the curious mechanism of the human frame originates in chance.

The style of his lordship's discourses is throughout remarkably clear and energetic, keeping the subject constantly in the view of his hearers, and fixing their minds intently upon its importance and consequences from the exordium to the peroration.

LADY HAMILTON, K. M.

IN the career of human life both sexes press on towards the gaol, and alike aim at celebrity; but the contest is not fair; for all the advantages are on the side of the males, while the females start under a variety of disabilities, and consequently maintain the race with unequal speed. It accordingly happens that although many men become the founders of their own fortune, but a small number of women are enabled to raise themselves above the surface of life, and claim the notice and the attention of the public. To obtain this distinction does not always fall to the lot of beauty alone; sense, talents, and even good fortune, are also necessary; and it is not difficult to predict, that all these requisites must fall only to the lot of a chosen few.

The subject of this memoir is a native of Hampshire. She is said to have been born in the forest of Bere, and we have been told that her father was an

humble cottager. When it is recollected that birth is adventitious, not optional, it surely cannot hurt the feelings of Lady Hamilton to recollect that her situation and pretensions were exactly similar to those of the empress Catherine when she became united to Peter the Great!

Formed in Nature's happiest mould, the beautiful Emma Hart soon attracted the attention of the neighbouring swains; and whether she tended the flocks, like an Arcadian shepherdess of old, or gleaned in the field, like the "lovely young Lavinia" of Thomson, the Palemons of the neighbourhood were alike anxious to engage her attention; but she aspired to, and obtained a superior destiny.

From the munificence of Lord Hallifax, a generous and splendid nobleman, who then lived at Stansted-park, in Sussex, and was captivated with her beauty and innocence, she is supposed to have received an education superior to the neighbouring maidens. After the lapse of a few years, and the intervention of a journey to the continent, she obtained the hand of Sir William Hamilton, K. B. a gentleman whose ancestors had matched with the blood-royal of Scotland, and who was at that period minister from his Britannic Majesty at the court of Naples.

It was in the fine climate of Italy that this flower, which first budded into existence beneath the foliage of an English forest, expanded its leaves, disclosed its sweets, and developed all its beauties. The pencil of the painter, and the chissel of the sculptor, have been both employed to celebrate her charms; and the writer

of

of this article has seen two busts and one portrait, which display the fairest form and loveliest tints he has ever witnessed.

The match alluded to above was criticised, we believe, by the relations of the ambassador; but with all due regard to those lofty family pretensions, which become obsolete and even ridiculous at an enlightened period, the sacrifice was chiefly on the part of youth and beauty:

> "Sic visum Veneri; cui placet impares
> Formas atque animos sub juga ahenea
> Sævo mittere cumjoco." Hor. lib. i. Od. 33.

But without insisting on this subject, it may be only necessary to state, that the union was peculiarly gratifying to such English families as made the grand tour from 1791 to 1802, and happened to reside any time at Naples. Never was British hospitality carried to such a pitch at any of the Italian courts. A splendid table, select entertainments, exquisite concerts; in short, every thing was obtained that could render this residence comfortable, and a spare carriage was actually kept for the use of such as might not happen to be provided with a mode of conveyance, rendered absolutely necessary by the warmth of the climate, as well as the established *etiquette* of this luxurious city. Nor amidst this appearance of shew was the public business neglected: on the contrary, the interests of England were never cultivated with greater care, nor her concerns attended to with greater fidelity.

Although the crown already tottered on the head of Ferdinand IV. his subjects had revolted from his

dominion, and a foreign enemy had actually obtained possession of his capital, yet he maintained his alliance unshaken, and his faith inviolate, notwithstanding the entreaties of a brother, and the menaces of both foreign and domestic enemies. In short, the British cabinet received intelligence from that court, without the expenditure of a single shilling in search of it, that could not be procured by the thousands lavished so profusely elsewhere, under the head of secret service money.

The French revolution, so fertile in incidents of every kind, constitutes a memorable epoch in the life of Lady Hamilton. The ambassadress had lived in the closest habits of intimacy and friendship with the queen, who was of the Austrian family, being the daughter of the emperor Francis I. During a space of thirteen years our fair countrywoman had been honoured with a daily communication with her majesty, whom she had known at one period exalted to the highest pinnacle of human prosperity, and was destined to witness at another, depressed to the lowest situation to which a princess could possibly be reduced; in short, a fugitive from that capital in which she had so long lived and reigned.

As the king of the Two Sicilies had from the very first evinced a jealousy of the proceedings that took place in France, so he was soon destined to experience the vengeance of the new republic. Admiral Truguet accordingly presented himself before Naples with a formidable fleet, and threatened an immediate bombardment; but the storm was averted by timely submission.

submission. However, one of his squadron having staid behind to be refitted, the officers and sailors of the Languedoc actually found means to revolutionize the whole city, and at length the Lazzaroni only remained faithful to their sovereign. The invasion of the army of Championnet followed soon after, and a temporary abdication became indispensably necessary on the part of Ferdinand IV.

It was upon this occasion that the protection of England, and the friendship of her ambassadress, were eminently conspicuous. A British man of war, in addition to an immense treasure, conveyed the royal family to Sicily. Lady Hamilton exerted herself at this critical period, with an equal degree of resolution, dexterity, and success. According to some, in the disguise of a sailor; and if we are to believe others, in that of a *poissarde*; her ladyship not only contrived to get all their wealth, as well as the most precious pictures, on board the British Admiral Lord Nelson's ship, but also assisted greatly in extricating the royal family from a capital in insurrection, and a populace inflamed to such a pitch of madness, as to be ready to sacrifice them to their vengeance.

During the storm that occurred in their passage to Palermo, and when the queen was abandoned by all the ladies of her court, this faithful Englishwoman not only accompanied but attended on her majesty, and it was in her arms, that one of the children, overcome with fatigue and affright, perished. When, in consequence of a sudden change in the affairs of France, Naples was restored to its sovereign,

sovereign, Lady Hamilton also repaired thither, and procured all the females in the capital to sign a petition to the queen, earnestly entreating her return, which was soon after complied with.

To depict the horrid as well as impolitic butchery (for it cannot be designated by the common name of an *execution*) that ensued, would exceed the space destined for this article; but it may not be improper to mention in this place, that a literary female has been grossly imposed upon in many particulars, as appears evident from her account of that terrible catastrophe. During most of the scenes mentioned by her, Lady Hamilton was absent, and never appeared in any of them, but in the amiable character of a mediatrix. In respect to one of the persons * who suffered upon this occasion, and to whose conduct during the last awful period of his existence, it is impossible to refuse our admiration, she repeatedly offered an asylum that would have prevented that death which awaited him, and instead of rejoicing like a fiend at the punishment of so many victims, she wept at the impolicy and injustice of the measure. The character of her ladyship, however, has been fully rescued from this palpable misrepresentation, by a gentleman who had access to the first sources of knowledge, and not only perused all the original documents, but was acquainted with those best calculated to afford genuine information.†

But it was not to the royal family of Naples alone

* Cerillo, the physician to the court.

† See the History of the late War, vol. ii.

that

that Lady Hamilton proved useful, for during her long residence in Italy, she was always attentive to the interests of that country where she was born, and of which her husband, the good and amiable Sir William, was the representative. When the Maltese rose against the French, and invoked the assistance of Great Britain, they applied to Naples for corn, and declared that they must give up the contest, unless they were furnished with an immediate supply of provisions. In this critical situation of affairs, the ambassadress interceded with the queen, and her Majesty immediately purchased, out of her own private purse, two feluccas laden with wheat, which were expedited the day after the arrival of the deputies. It was her ladyship also who afforded the first, and most authentic information to the British cabinet, that the King of Spain was about to abandon the coalition, make peace with France, and declare war against Great Britain. It is more easy to describe than to estimate the value of such entelligence, more especially when it is recollected, that it was obtained through the friendship of a great personage, and, unlike operations of this kind, in general, did not cost the nation a ducat.

At length, after a residence of more than thirty years on the part of Sir William, and of about fourteen on that of Lady Hamilton, they revisited their native country. Notwithstanding his long sojourn at Naples, this gentleman had not been enriched by his diplomatic mission ; and so little were his representations attended to by the ministers who then presided over our councils,

councils, that they refused him the paltry boon, so richly merited by his lady's own exertions, of a small reversionary annuity, in case she should survive him.

Soon after their return, Lady Hamilton perceiving that in consequence of the enhanced price of every thing in this country, Sir William would find some difficulty in living in a manner suitable to his birth and rank in England, generously determined to sacrifice what is usually prized by female vanity, as the first of all luxuries, to his accommodation. Her ladyship, accordingly, parted with all her jewels, by means of which, she obtained about three thousand pounds, and with this sum, purchased the lease and furniture of a noble house in Piccadilly, where her husband, overpowered by the rigour of the climate, to which he had not been accustomed since his youth, died in her arms, and with his last breath, offered up prayers for her future happiness and prosperity!

What has been already said chiefly indicates the qualities of the head and heart; it may be, therefore, necessary to mention something of the accomplishments of the subject of these memoirs. A long residence in Italy has enabled Lady Hamilton to acquire a great precision in the charming language of that country, and at the same time to improve her voice and taste for music, both of which are exquisite. By a wonderful flexibility of muscles, and a corresponding pliability of limbs, she has been enabled to assume a variety of forms, so as either to imitate a Diana attired as a huntress; a Venus retiring gracefully from the gaze of the bewitched beholder; or a Madona, exciting the reverence

rence and admiration of the enraptured devotee.* The writer of this article has beheld her uniting the delicacy of the one sex, with the masculine knowledge of the other, in conversation, and has glanced over some lines of poetry which appeared worthy of commemoration.

It may not be unnecessary to add, that in consequence of the timely and energetic assistance afforded to the Maltese, the late emperor Paul, among whose faults we cannot reckon that of ingratitude, proposed a noble remuneration for the two distinguished females who exerted themselves on that occasion; for while to one he restored that diadem which her husband had lost, he decorated the breast of the other with the cross of the ancient order of St. John of Jerusalem.

GENERAL PAOLI.

THE subject of these memoirs, although he cannot be designated as a native of Great Britain, yet possesses many claims to the notice of this country, and if not an Englishman by birth, may be considered, in some measure, as an Englishman by adoption. While fighting gallantly, first against the Genoese, and then against the French, this nation was desirous to second his patriotic ardour; and it reflects no small share of dishonour on the ministers of a former period, that Louis XV. was permitted with impunity to invade the territories of a

* See a work entitled "Lady Hamilton's Attitudes," drawn at Naples by F. Rebberg, and engraved by Piroli.

free

free and independent state. But a generous indignation on the part of the people, in some measure, made amends for the conduct of their rulers, and a hospitable asylum was at length afforded here to the gallant chief, after he had been forced to retire from a long and unequal conflict.

Pascal Paoli, the second son of Giacinto Paoli, was born in Corsica, in the year 1726, and although he removed while yet a boy, remained there long enough to contract an attachment to his native country, and to feel a generous sympathy for its wrongs. His family had always belonged to the popular party, and his father espoused the interests of king Theodore, on the best and purest motives. About the year 1738-9, finding himself unable any longer to support the common cause, he retired to Naples, where he obtained the rank of colonel, and also procured a commission for Pascal, who was educated under the jesuits. This order had at that period attained an unrivalled degree of celebrity ; its members superintended the consciences of half the catholic sovereigns and grandees of Europe, while the youth of all descriptions were entrusted to their care. It was the peculiar boast of the society that it discovered the bent and genius of its scholars; and fame reports that young Paoli was a pupil, concerning whom high hopes had been formed by the reverend fathers.

After a residence of twelve or thirteen years on the continent, during which period he laid the foundation of his future plans in favour of his country, the Corsicans began to fix their eyes on him as a proper person

person to be their chief. He accordingly received the strongest invitations to repair to, and assume the command of his native land, and he was at length prevailed upon to embark in the glorious enterprize of liberating his country from a foreign yoke, stimulated on one hand by patriotism, and undismayed on the other by the dangers he was about to encounter, not only from the envy of the other chiefs, but also from the daggers of the Genoese assassins, who had murdered more than one of his predecessors.

In order to comprehend the merit and the danger of such an undertaking, it may be here necessary to give some account of Corsica, more especially as the family of Paoli is immediately connected with the latter part of its history. This has experienced the same fortune as all the neighbouring islands in the Mediterranean, and has consequently appertained by turns to the Carthaginians and Romans in one age, and the Saracens in another. At length, after a variety of revolutions, Audemar, who governed Genoa, in the name of the emperor, seized on Corsica for himself, and the inhabitants, who had become mussulmen, in compliance with their former masters, now became christians, out of compliment to their new ones. As such they were accordingly recognized by the church of Rome, in the twelfth century, and actually considered as a papal fief; for we find the Pope conferring the investiture on Pisa, on condition of receiving an acknowledgment of fifty livres a year.

The Genoese, however, refused to respect either the claims of the holy see, or the pretensions of its enemies,

enemies, and a war having taken place between the two rival republics, in 1125, Pisa was forced to succumb, Corsica became the prize of the victors, and the Doge from that moment assumed a regal crown, in token of its submission: this emblem of royalty was fastidiously emblazoned on his carriage and his galley, and made but a poor amends for the misfortunes which attended such an equivocal sovereignty.

The dominion of their new masters was peculiarly odious to the Corsicans, for they constantly abused their power, and treated the inhabitants as a conquered nation. The latter were accordingly loaded with imposts of every kind; these consisted of a capitation, a tithe, and a hearth-tax; and it added not a little to their misery, that they were precluded from engaging in trade, or erecting manufactures, in consequence of the unceasing jealousy of the government. In addition to fiscal grievances on one hand, and legal disabilities on the other, another, and, if possible, a more vexatious source of complaints arose, in the unceasing oppressions of the poor nobles of Genoa, who were sent to enrich themselves with the spoils of an unhappy people, in the character of governors, commissary-generals, &c.

Such a series of injustice of course produced avengers; perpetual commotions took place; occasional insurrections, always termed *rebellions* by the victors, ensued; and while Corsica served only to enrich individuals, it became a burden to the republic of Genoa.

At length the senate, finding itself unable to subdue a people fighting for every thing usually considered

dered as dear to mankind, invoked the assistance of the emperor of Germany, and received a body of his troops into their pay. This event, which at first appeared so hostile to the happiness of the islanders, tended not a little to relieve them from their misery, for by the mediation of that monarch an armistice took place, and a negociation was entered into;* in consequence of which the more odious imposts were to be abolished, and the natives were declared eligible to fill certain offices hitherto conferred on foreigners alone.

But this truce was not of long duration, for the Genoese, after arresting and imprisoning the deputies who had signed the late convention, violated all its articles, and not content with such a flagrant breach of faith, put three of the chiefs to death.

Such was the situation of affairs when one of the most extraordinary characters recorded in history, or even in romance, interfered, and connected his fortune with that of this island. The person alluded to was Theodore, Baron of Newhoff, descended from a noble family of the county of La Marc. His father having left Germany, in consequence of a marriage dictated by love rather than pride, repaired to France, where his son Theodore, so celebrated afterwards on account of his elevation and his misfortunes, was appointed page to the duke-regent of Orleans. Young Newhoff, as if attached from his cradle to whatever appeared wonderful, entered into the service of Charles XII. under whom he at once studied and

* In 1732.

practised the art of war. Having afterwards accompanied the Baron de Gortz to the Hague, at a time when that nobleman was plotting the restoration of the Stuart family to the throne of England, he happened to be lucky enough to avoid the fate of his patron, who after having been imprisoned at Deventer, by order of the States-general, was soon after executed at Stockholm, in order to satiate the vengeance of his own countrymen.

Having fled to Spain, and obtained the rank of colonel there, he became united to Lady Sarsfield, daughter of Lord Kilmalock, an Irish nobleman, who in consequence of the misfortunes of her family had also taken refuge in a foreign country, and was then employed about the person of the queen. This match, however, proved unfortunate, and having been obliged by misfortunes to abandon his wife, by whom he had more than one child, Theodore repaired to France, where he formed a connexion with another adventurer* like himself, and embarked along with him in the Mississippi scheme. On the failure of this enterprize, he rambled throughout Europe in search of employment, and actually found means to get introduced to the emperor, in whose name we find him soon after negociating with the Genoese, while he, at the same time, kept up a private correspondence with the Corsicans.

At length, after an interview with some of the principal insurgents, who had repaired to Florence on purpose to confer with him, this extraordinary man

* The celebrated John Law.

landed

landed suddenly, and after a few days residence, was crowned by the stile and title of Theodore I. king of Corsica and Capraja!

Among those who attached themselves to the party of Theodore, was the Marquis Hiacente de Paoli, the father of the general whose memoirs are now under consideration; and on the retreat of the monarch, we find this nobleman not only declared one of the two marshals-general of the kingdom, but also the first member of the council of regency.*

In this capacity he and his colleague Giatteri for many years presided over the popular party, and regulated the destiny of the Corsicans until age had palsied his arm, and rendered his faculties incompetent to the task of vindicating the cause of an oppressed

* Here follows a list of the members, as promulgated by an edict, dated at Sartena, November 14, 1736:

The Marquis Hiacente de Paoli, and The Marquis Don Louis Giafferi, } Marshals-general of the kingdom.

The Marquis Lucas Ornano	Colonel Coroni
The Count John Felix Ponzoni	Colonel Matteide Nilo
The Count Durazzi	The Count Ambrosi
The Chevalier Antonio Suzini D'Aulle	The Count Lazzelotti
	The Count Natoli
The Count Mari	The Chevalier Felix de Pietralba
The Chevalier Fernandi	General Grallond
The Count Puillicio	General Paetti
The Count Casabianca	The Chevalier Cuffoli
Colonel Sampieri	The Count Peraldi
The Chevalier Leravalle	The Chevalier Guagno
The Count Sucini	The Sieur Dominico Tomasini
The Marquis Matra	The Sieur Ambrose Puilici.
The Count Peter Gaffori	

people. But even then, he had the satisfaction to behold a son inheriting the same generous principles, and ready to spill his blood in behalf of his country.

On taking leave of his father, the hoary chief, now bending under the weight of years, fell on his neck, and after giving him his blessing, encouraged him in the undertaking in which he was about to engage. "My son (said he to Pascal Paoli), I may possibly never see you more; but in imagination I shall ever be present with you. Your design is great and noble, and I doubt not but God will bless and assist you in it. The little which remains to me of life I will allot to your cause, and in offering up my prayers and supplications to heaven for your protection and prosperity."*

* The father of Paoli was attached to the study of poetry, and one of his compositions, celebrating a victory obtained by General Giafferi, at the siege of Cordone, is still in existence. It is in form of a "Sonetto."

1.

"A coronar l'Eroe di Cirno invitto,
Morte discenda e se l'inchini il fato;
E li sospiri del Ligure sconfitto
Diano alla tromba della Fama il fiato.
"Fatto appena di Golo il bel tragitto,
Del nemico espugna forte steccato;
Sprezzò perigli, e al disugual conflitto,
Virtu pervalse, ov'ci comparve armato.
"Cirno lo scelse, e'l suo destin l'arrise;
E'l gran litigio a cui l'Europa è attenta
Al suo valor, al brando suo, commise.
"Il brando, ch' anche il destin spaventa,
"All' ingrata Liguria il crin recise;
E a Cirno il scetro la sua man presenta."

No

No sooner did this young and enterprizing chief appear in the island, than he attracted the attention and even the hearts of his countrymen. His prudent deportment, his mature judgment, his affability, his modesty, and his eloquence, obtained the suffrages of all; amidst a multitude who presented themselves as candidates, he alone seemed worthy of the supreme command, and he was at length called to it by the unanimous suffrages of his countrymen, all competitors appearing desirous of resigning their pretensions in his favour.

This joyful event was immediately ratified by a proclamation, in the name of "the supreme and general council of Corsica, to the beloved people of that nation," dated at "St. Antonio of the White-house, July 15, 1755."

This *general consulta*, as it was termed, consisting of the chiefs of the council of war, the deputies of the provinces, and the representatives of the respective parishes, stated "that having determined on the election of one political and general chief, the voices had been in favour of Pascal Paoli, a man whose virtues and abilities render him worthy thereof." It is added, "that he had expressed great reluctance to accept of the supreme command, but had at length been prevailed upon, to take upon him the government, in the conduct of which he was to be assisted by two counsellors of state, and one of the most reputable persons from each province, who were to be changed every month."

The situation of the island was far from being in-

viting at this particular period; there was no subordination among the people, no money in the public treasury; no arms in the arsenals. To remedy in part these defects, he new-modelled the government, but instead of arrogating novel and extraordinary powers to himself, all his changes were not only formed on democratical principles, but appeared in strict conformity to the customs and manners of the people. Above all, he was extremely eager to curb and annihilate, if possible, assassinations, for the Corsicans having been long denied public justice, had assumed the right of private revenge; it was computed that the state lost eight hundred males yearly, by this barbarous practice.

As the Genoese were now in possession of a large portion of the island, it became necessary to drive them out. By persuasion and example, all ranks exerted themselves in the common cause, and the enemy were obliged in a short time to take refuge in the maritime towns. No sooner had he expelled the foe from the bosom of his country, than Paoli reiterated his endeavours for its internal happiness. An university was established at Corte, and an attempt made to open schools for the instruction of children, in every village throughout the kingdom. The nation, at length, appeared to be firm and united, and notwithstanding the numbers lost in skirmishes, the population encreased considerably.

In 1760, an attempt was made to form a petty marine,* and to give encouragement to private ad-

* Count Peres actually fitted out a flotilla, and was considered as the "high admiral of Corsica."

yenturers,

venturers, a manifesto was issued in the course of that year, by which, all the vessels appertaining to Genoa, were declared to be legal prizes. On this, the Doge and Senate, being seriously alarmed for the commerce of the republic, proposed to send a deputation on purpose to enter into a new treaty with the natives; but it was determined in a general council, convoked at Vescovato in Casinca, "never to make any agreement with the republic, but on the express condition of having Corsica secured in the enjoyment of its liberties and independence." A memorial was at the same time addressed to all the sovereigns of Europe, calling upon them, in the name of outraged humanity, to interfere in behalf of the happiness and prosperity of a nation, which had so long and so manfully contended in behalf of its rights.*

But instead of receiving any succour from the neighbouring monarchs, one of these was preparing at this very moment to take part with their enemies, and wage a long and cruel war with them, first as the ally of Genoa, and next in behalf of ridiculous and absurd pretensions, arising out of the claims of that state.

Paoli now carried on continual hostilities with the invaders; but his success was not always correspondent to his talents. The whole of the open country was in possession of himself and his followers, yet the towns were still garrisoned by troops dependent on the will of Genoa. Were it possible to drive them from these, he was well aware that the domestic factions hostile to

* "Memoria ai Sovrani di Europa," published in 1761.

his interest might be easily subdued, and the dominion of foreigners annihilated for ever in the island.

He determined accordingly to besiege St. Fiorenzo, and appeared before it with a considerable body of natives. It may be here necessary to remark that the Corsicans, although brave and intrepid, were at that period nearly as ignorant of the art of war as the savages of Canada. They knew, indeed, how to intercept, overwhelm, and destroy their enemies in the field; but they were totally unacquainted with the attack and defence of fortified places. On this occasion they prepared, as usual, to intercept convoys, cut off stragglers, or restrain foraging parties; but they never dreamed of making regular approaches, and did not possess a single piece of cannon, a mortar, or even a howitzer. Their offensive operations, therefore, consisted merely in advancing up to the walls under cover of the suburbs, whence they assailed those placed on the ramparts by means of musket-shot; and as they were excellent marksmen, but seldom fired in vain, although their attacks were necessarily feeble, and in general unsuccessful.

The Doge and Senate, alarmed lest they should at length be deprived of the sovereignty of the island, began to negociate with the neighbouring powers for assistance, and in the mean time determined to send five hundred men to the succour of the place. It was extremely difficult to find a proper commander for these troops; two, however, presented themselves as candidates. The first was Dumouriez, since so celebrated by the cannonade at Valmi, and the battle of

Jemappe,

Jemappe, and at that period an adventurer, running through Italy in search of bread and employment. Notwithstanding his pretensions were backed by the French minister at Genoa, and the senator Lommellini, an old knight of St. Louis, called Lantieri, born in the dominions of the republic, and a captain in the royal Corsican regiment in the service of France, was preferred upon this occasion, and on his arrival the Corsicans were obliged to retire.*

But they proved more successful on another occasion, during which they evinced no small degree of perseverance and intrepidity. An expedition against the little island of Capraja, which has always been considered as dependent upon Corsica, was now resolved upon, in consequence of some important information obtained by a native,† who had visited this place in his way from France. The conduct of the enterprize was committed to Signor Achilles Murati, commandant at Erbalonga, and Signor John Baptist Ristori, commandant at Turiani, who on the evening

* Dumouriez being mortified at this refusal, immediately repaired to Leghorn, whence he wrote to Paoli, and proferred his own services, as well as those of four other French officers, one of whom he dispatched with a letter; but the Corsican chief sagely declined the offer. Soon after this he formed an acquaintance with Costa de Castellana, one of the chiefs at variance with the party of Paoli, and also connected himself with the two brothers, Girolamo and Luca, Abba Hucci, who carried on an open war with that general. At the instigation of Dumouriez, who drew up the plan of a republic, these at one period declared themselves independent, and no less than twenty-four chiefs of Pieves promised their assent to this new scheme of government.

† Signor Paul Mattei, of Centuri.

of the 10th of February, 1767, set sail from the port of Macinajo, accompanied by Signor Mattei, and several gallant young men appertaining to the principal families of Cape Corso and Nebbio, who acted as volunteers, while a few Capraese, at the same time, served them as guides.*

Having effected a landing in the course of the same night, the Corsican leaders immediately signified to the natives that they were not come with any hostile intentions in respect to them, but merely to expel the Genoese, their oppressors. No sooner was their design intimated, than a number of the inhabitants joined them, and they immediately laid siege to the citadel.

The Genoese, shocked at the idea that men whom they termed "rebels," not content with vindicating their own liberties, should be daring enough to unloose the chains of the people of a neighbouring settlement, immediately fitted out a considerable naval armament, under the command of Signor Augustino Pinello, a man of true activity and valour, and a senator of the republic. In addition to this, Colonel Antonio Matra made a descent with a chosen body of troops, so that the invaders were attacked both by sea and land at the same time. The Corsicans, however, not only found means to defend themselves with zeal, but also to press the siege, or rather the blockade, with such an extraordinary degree of vigour, that the citadel of Capraja surrendered on the 29th of May, 1767.

* Boswell's Account of Corsica, page 233.

But

But a great change was now about to take place in the situation of General Paoli, and the destiny of his native island. The Genoese, unable to bear the burden of a long and ruinous contest, and being unprovided with either forces or commanders, sufficient to finish the war, determined to demand the intervention of France. Louis XV. was easily prevailed upon, at the solicitation of the minister Choiseul, to compromise his own honour as well as the dignity of the nation, by an unworthy bargain; and it was at length agreed, that the Marquis de Marbœuf, with six French battalions, was to garrison certain of the maritime towns, on purpose to enable the Genoese nobles to continue their spoliations with impunity.

This measure, which, in the end, led to a transfer of the island, and a war with Paoli, does not appear to have originated in any settled plan of policy, but in the intrigue of a few underlings appertaining to the court. The Marquis de Sorba, the Genoese resident in France, perceiving every thing to be venal at Versailles, determined to employ the notes of the bank of St. George, then in high reputation, on purpose to serve the interests of his native country. The celebrated Mademoiselle L'Ange, or Vaubernier, afterwards mistress to the king, under the name of Madame de Barré, and who has since been guillotined; Favier, a man who possessed great political discrimination, and had been privately employed in many interesting affairs by the reigning monarch; and even the Duchess de Grammont, sister to the premier, (but the last of these without any pecuniary motives) had

all

all engaged in this affair, and were desirous of increasing the number of subsidiary troops.*

A body of soldiers was accordingly sent over and employed in garrisoning the maritime places; but Corsica still remained unsubdued, and a treaty was actually entered into with Paoli, by which he was tacitly acknowledged as the legitimate chief. The ambition of Louis XV. was, however, flattered about this period, with the hope of annexing a barren island to his fertile and extensive dominions; and measures were

* Dumouriez, who, by his own confession, had himself engaged in this intrigue, and was promised a hundred louis d'ors for his agency, gives the following account of the *dramatis personæ*, in vol. i. of his Memoirs:

"It so happened, at this very period, that Favier was connected with the famous John Dubarry, and Mademoiselle L'Ange; they were all *interested* relative to this little army destined for Corsica. These persons, merely to encrease their gains, had formed a coalition with the Marquis de Sorba, minister from the republic of Genoa at the court of Versailles, and were desirous to send at least double the number of subsidiary troops that had been agreed upon.

"The minister of Genoa hoped to change the nature of the treaty from defensive to offensive, and to engage France in a war with Paoli. All the persons in the confidence of the Duke de Choiseul had entered into the plot; even his own sister, the Duchess de Grammont, who was wheedled into it by Julia, her waiting-woman, a famous intriguer, to whom the Marquis de Sorba had promised that, should every thing succeed according to his wishes, 'he would exchange to the amount of five hundred thousand livres of Nonette's, or the Canada bank bills, which were then at a discount of seventy-five per cent. against an equal number of good notes of the bank of St. George.' It was in this manner that the affairs of France were then conducted. The Marshal de Duras, and part of the court, were also deeply concerned in the fate of Corsica."

actually

actually taken to purchase the very equivocal claims of the Genoese, to a country which they had ruled with a sceptre of iron. Accordingly, in 1768, it was determined to send a fresh body of troops thither, under the Marquis de Chauvelin, a general little acquainted with the profession of arms, but who had attained a high credit, in the voluptuous court of the reigning monarch, whose favourite he was.

The army destined for this operation was composed of sixteen battalions and two legions, consisting in the whole of about five thousand men, who were deemed sufficient to achieve the conquest, more especially, as they were supported by a squadron of two sail of the line, two frigates, and six armed brigantines. Indeed, previously to their arrival, Lieutenant-general de Marbœuf had forced Paoli to abandon Cape Corse, and the posts in the neighbourhood of this town, and many of the young nobles, who frequented Versailles, repaired to the scene of action, with a view of witnessing, and participating in the triumph of their countrymen.

In the mean time, the Corsicans were posted in the heights of Nebbio, de la Croce, Maillebois, and St. Antonio, where they waited an attack; and as they were unable to withstand the charge of veteran troops, armed with bayonets, and provided with cannon, they retreated, after an action, in which they lost three hundred men. Immediately on this Paoli retired behind the Guolo; but the French, notwithstanding their victory, were by this time fully convinced that it was no easy matter to overcome a brave, although small

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nation, contending for their liberties; M. de Chauvelin, therefore, content with his recent success, instantly dispatched an officer to court, on purpose to demand immediate reinforcements.

Some of his troops, however, having imprudently penetrated into the Pieva de la Casinca, a body of five or six thousand natives, under the command of Clement Paoli, brother to the general, and an officer of great intrepidity, pretended to retreat; but he soon attacked the invaders, forced the post of la Penta, after killing or taking two hundred prisoners, and obliged the French to recross the river, and fall back to Notre Dame dell' Orto.

In the course of a few days more, the camp of St. Nicholas was attacked by the whole Corsican army, and General Grandmaison, who held out until night, was obliged to take advantage of the darkness, to effect his retreat to Oletta, at the extremity of the plain of Nebbio. After this they laid siege to the town of Borgo, which was garrisoned by a body of French, under M. de Lude; and a knight of St. Louis, called Grimaldi, who had formerly been in the service of Louis XV. having obtained possession of a house in the midst of the place, immediately entrenched himself there, and found means to cut off all communication with the water, by which the enemy were supplied.

In this situation, the garrison was reduced to the most deplorable condition, and on the point of capitulating on account of thirst alone. Having intimated their situation by means of signals (for all other modes of

of communication were now cut off, M. de Chauvelin was obliged to risk the progress of the campaign, as well as the safety of the whole army, by a movement to relieve them.

This posture of affairs afforded a glorious opportunity to the Corsicans to vindicate their cause, assert their claims to independence, and punish their enemies. Paoli having collected all his forces, determined on giving battle to the French, in case of an assault, and on this occasion, fortune warred on the side of justice.

The fate of this action, which occurred on the 5th of September 1768, chiefly depended on the care with which a combined movement happened to be effected on the part of the French. While General Grandmaison marched along the heights by the way of Ortale, to attack the Corsicans on the side of the mountain, M. de Marbœuf was charged to turn the left flank of the village, and M. de Narbonne, to attack the centre. But the first division did not arrive at the place of its destination, and the two other columns which engaged near the plain, were assailed on all sides by invisible enemies, who knowing themselves unable to contend with a foe provided with all the implements of war, in the open field, took post within and behind the houses, where they fired with equal safety and precision. To add to the catastrophe, of the regiment of Languedoc which composed part of the garrison of Borgo, and sallied forth during the assault, one man only returned, so that the French were obliged to retire, leaving three hundred

of

of their dead behind them, while M. du Lude was under the necessity of surrendering, in the course of the next day, with all the infantry, the colours of the royal legion, and four pieces of cannon.

Such a brilliant exploit, on the part of an army, whom the French considered as composed of an half-armed rabble of peasantry, infused terror and dismay into the ranks of the vanquished, obliged M. de Chauvelin to retire to Bastia, whence he soon after repaired to France, where he would certainly have experienced the most mortifying reception, had it not been for the favour of the monarch, who received his unfortunate friend with smiles, in the place of reproaches, and conferred new honours on, instead of disgracing him.

A suspension of arms now ensued, in consequence of a fresh treaty between the Corsicans and the French; but Dumouriez, who had been employed in this army as adjutant-general, under pretence that the Corsicans were not comprehended in it, intrigued with several of the natives at variance with Paoli, such as the Fabiani and Abbatucci, and he even endeavoured to surprise the post of Isola Rossa, by means of a traitor, called Cappochia, while he actually took the tower of Giralette by storm.

The Corsican patriots, on the other hand, inflamed to madness by ill usage, entered into a well-concerted conspiracy, on purpose to exterminate the invaders. All the quarters occupied by the French were to be assaulted at the same time, and six battalions which had wintered in Oletta, were to be cut off by their hosts.

hosts. The massacre did not take place, but the general attack was carried into execution, in consequence of which, a battalion of the regiment of la Mark was surprised in the Patrimonio, and the war renewed with increased rancour and redoubled fury.

Such was the conclusion of the campaign of 1768, which commenced in injustice, and terminated in disgrace. That of 1769 proved fatal to Corsican independence. M. de Choiseul now imagined that the glory of France would be tarnished, and his own safety endangered, if a small body of islanders was enabled any longer to defy the veteran armies of a great monarch. The most efficacious measures were therefore adopted by him, for achieving the conquest of the island in the course of the ensuing spring. To attain this object, he reinforced the vanquished army with twenty battalions, two legions, and twelve hundred mules; the last of which were intended for the transport of provisions through a mountainous country, where it was impossible to make use of carriages. To complete the whole, he conferred the command on the Count de Vaux, a most excellent officer, well acquainted with the theatre of the present war, and who joined considerable talents to an air of severity, that made the young courtiers in the army tremble.

No sooner had the new general reached head quarters, than he expressed his majesty's disapprobation at the conduct of his officers, and evinced a settled determination to correct the abuses that had prevailed. He then formed a plan of operations, in consequence of which, he proposed to make an attack on the side

of Ajaccio by means of large detachments, while he himself was to force the passes of Bogognaro and Vico, with the remainder of his troops. Accordingly the army was divided into two columns, of twelve battalions each, one of which marched by the camp of St. Nicholas, and the other penetrated by that of St. Antonio; while M. de Narbonne with twelve battalions more, commenced operations on the side of Ajaccio, and M. de Marbœuf at the head of eight, turned off through the plain of Mariana, on purpose to ascend the Tavignano, so that these four bodies of troops menaced Corte at the same time. Nor was this all, for the Baron de Viomesnil, with the legion of Lorraine, and some small detachments, was instructed to follow the road along the sea-shore, through the plain of Aleria, as far as Porto-Vecchio, at the same time that the French garrison of Bonifaccio, and some troops that were to be landed in the gulph of Valineo, received orders to march for Sartenne.

This combined movement embraced the subjugation of all Corsica, and the unhappy natives, although they readily perceived that the enemy were now better led, and more skilfully directed than before, yet determined to oppose their utmost efforts, and resist the invaders to the very last. Accordingly, after defending the bridge of Guolo, and the village of Valle, they retreated, to the number of six or seven thousand men, to a high plain, situate on the top of a mountain, crowned by a grove of chesnut trees, in the midst of which is an ancient Turkish mosque, now connected to a christian church, and denominated St. Peter's chapel. As this

overlooks

overlooks and commands the four adjoining vallies, it is considered as the key to the island, and the Marshal de Termes had on a former occasion subjected all Corsica by taking post there.

A small body of French actually advanced and took possession of the chapel, and had they been properly sustained, Paoli, who was then reposing after his fatigues in an abbey, in the valley of Merosaglia, might, perhaps, have been taken prisoner. But the Corsicans taking advantage of this forward movement, which was not supported by the main body, not only repulsed the assailants, but finding that the Count de Viomesnil had encamped for the night in a bottom, they glided into the woods, harassed the troops, and obliged them to retreat with considerable loss. Nor was their success confined to this skirmish, for they surprised the volunteers of the army at Ponte-Nuovo, routed three battalions of grenadiers who had been sent to support them, and were at length forced to retreat, merely on account of the decided superiority, both in point of numbers and arms. Of about fifteen hundred Corsicans who combated upon this occasion, more than one-third perished, and many of these were drowned, in consequence of their extraordinary zeal.

The remainder of the campaign consisted of a mere march, for after this signal defeat the natives never once rallied. A person,* since celebrated for his intrigues and his victories, at the expence of one hundred and seventy louis-d'ors, contrived to bribe seventeen drunken men, who composed the garrison of the

* Dumouriez.

castle of Corte, and in return was presented with about a hundred volumes of Paoli's library, which was divided among five or six officers. According to Boswell, it consisted of but a small collection; but we are told by Dumouriez, "there was not a single book that did not bear evidence of its having belonged to a man of genius, and a great politician."

"Paoli (adds he) has rendered his name illustrious, in consequence of the vigour with which he supported the cause of public liberty among the Corsicans; but, in truth, it was a little at the expence of their individual freedom. In the course of this war he displayed great genius and a noble consistency; had he been endowed with military talents, had he known how to have instructed his countrymen in that species of hostility best suited to their natural bent, he would have destroyed our little army in 1768, and done us much more harm than we experienced in 1769.

"The Corsicans also exhibited a very laudable courage. It is astonishing that this handful of islanders, destitute of artillery, fortifications, magazines, and money, should have kept France at bay during two campaigns, although she had no other enemies to cope with. But liberty doubles the valour and the strength of man. If the Corsicans had not been disunited among themselves; if their leader had possessed their entire confidence, as he justly merited; if he had selected two or three military men acquainted with the art of war, on purpose to have acted under him, and to have formed a well-concerted plan of defence, it is doubtful whether they would ever have been conquered. The maritime towns might indeed have been taken, and all communication between them and the rest of the universe cut off; but then, retiring to their inaccessible mountains, they could have set the gold and the arms of France at defiance, and supported their independence until a war among the great powers had opened a door to foreign assistance.

"This wandering people could never have been deprived of their goats, their chesnuts, and their streams: these simple aliments are sufficient for them. A rude kind of money, with a moor's head stamped upon it, formed all their riches. Paoli made two hundred

hundred and forty sols out of a French crown, and a sum amounting to about three thousand livres of this base metal, served for all the purposes of exchange. They neither wanted arms nor ammunition, and they themselves spun their own clothes, which consisted of a coarse brown stuff, out of the hair or the wool of their flocks.

"The Corsisans (continues he) have reaped all the honours of the campaign of 1768. M. de Chauvelin was induced by French presumption to divide his little army, which thus became every where feeble. The enemy profited by this circumstance, with equal rapidity and discernment; but they might have struck a still deadlier blow, which they however neglected. Instead of marching against the French at Penta and Vescovato, had they made a false attack only on those two points, and fallen suddenly on Borgo, Lucciano, and Vinale, which were garrisoned by two hundred and fifty very careless troops, the camp Dell'orto, which was much weakened, being two leagues and a half off, and the corps stationed in the Casinca, at three leagues distance, they could have certainly carried these different posts without any difficulty; the eight hundred men under D'Arcambal, in the Casinca, being thus completely surrounded, must have been either destroyed or taken prisoners. M. de Chauvelin would not then have had more than a sufficient number of troops to garrison the towns; he would have been forced to have abandoned the communication by the Patrimonio, and Paoli might have been enabled to have once more obtained possession of Cape Corso, and to have kept the French shut up in the maritime places, as the Genoese were before the treaty. He would thus have been enabled to have received supplies in any quantity; for England and all the Italian powers assisted him privately.

"In the same manner, at the attack of the camp of St. Nicholas, if he had ordered a body of troops to penetrate through the plains of Nebbio, on the side of Sorio and Petralba, he could have carried St. Fiorenza, which was entirely open, and where there were but one hundred and fifty men. The place itself was encumbered with magazines and hospitals. The division under General Grandmaison was four leagues distant, and his retreat would have been cut off.

" But forgetting what he did not do, and which perhaps did not depend upon himself, all his attempts were bold, admirably combined, and executed with great art and precision. The conspiracy at Oletta, conducted by Galicetti, failed only in consequence of an accident very fortunate for the French, and the surprize of a whole battalion in the Patrimonio, was an attack upon winter quarters, that would have done honour to the greatest general.

" During the campaign of 1769 he did not lose his courage, notwithstanding the numerous forces assembled against him. The rash and desperate engagement on the part of fifteen hundred Corsicans, against the French army at Ponte-Nuovo, proves what might have been achieved by that brave nation. In the course of this campaign he ought to have sent more parties to act upon our rear, and make war on our mules and convoys. All the enterprizes of this kind attempted by him proved unsuccessful; had he multiplied them, and converted this into his principal system of warfare, he would have forced us, perhaps, to have fallen back for want of provision. Had he but held out until the rainy season, it is possible that he might have saved the liberties of his country during another summer, which would have been doing great things; for then foreign powers would have interfered, or the intrigues of the court might at least have produced the disgrace of the Duke de Choiseul, which would have entirely changed the face of affairs.

" As Paoli possessed a genius capable of perceiving all these combinations, it is most likely owing to events that occurred, and obstacles experienced by him on the part of his own nation, that we ought to attribute, not the faults, but the want of perfection, in his plan of defence. What he has achieved will always be a glorious historical monument in favour of him, and this extraordinary people.

" The conquest of Corsica is an inexcusable piece of injustice on the part of the court of France. The Genoese had not any right to sell, or Louis XV. any right to purchase a territory, whence the former had been driven upwards of thirty years by a nation which since that epoch was free. The Duke de Choiseul made the king of France purchase litigious claims and a bad law-suit, which cost him a great deal of money. In addition to the blood

of the people, which unfortunately but too seldom enters into political calculations, these two campaigns have either occasioned or become the pretext for the expenditure of a sum exceeding eighty millions (of livres) extraordinary; and this too for the purpose of conquering an island which, notwithstanding every art of fiscal rapacity, has always cost six hundred thousand livres a year, over and above the amount of its revenues. Colonies, grants, all have been tried and failed, and have only served to alienate the minds of the Corsicans, on whom restraints of every kind have been imposed, and these in their turn have tended not a little to disgust their free genius, and their simple and almost savage habits.

"M. de Chauvelin had not a sufficient number of troops to achieve the conquest of this island, and yet his army was accompanied by a parliament, an intendant, a crowd of clerks belonging to the farmers-general, custom-house officers, commissioners of the marine for the establishment of fisheries and other regulations, surveyors of the crown-lands, and, in short, all the supporters of absolute power. Corsica, in fine, was converted into a great government, on the express condition, like all the rest in France, that the governor should have an income of sixty thousand livres a year, and yet be prohibited from ever residing in his own province."

As it appeared evident, from the commencement of the second campaign, that his native country must succumb, Paoli resigned himself to his fate; but he found means to elude the pursuit of his enemies, and, in company with a few faithful followers attached to his fortune, escaped on board an English vessel, sent on purpose to receive him. Indeed, the whole British people felt a generous indignation for the wrongs committed against his nation, as well as for his own particular misfortunes, and a subscription had been actually entered into, by a number of respectable in-

dividuals, for the relief of those brave defenders of their own and the liberties of mankind.*

On his arrival in London a struggle took place between the patriots and the courtiers, who vied with each other in their attempts to console a general, who had been stiled the "Corsican Timoleon." The ministers, who instead of adopting a more open and manly kind of conduct, had contented themselves with sending a few paltry succours, now presented him to the King, by whom he was most graciously received. In addition to a considerable pension for himself, he also obtained a provision for Signor Clemente, his brother, who remained in Italy, Signor Barbaggio, his nephew, and several of his followers. In consequence of this, Paoli now lived in great ease, and even in some degree of splendour, in the metropolis of the British empire, having hired a good house in a fashionable street in the neighbourhood of Portman-square, and kept an open table for such of his countrymen as either resided in, or occasionally visited London.

It was in this manner that the Corsican chief enjoyed during many years an honourable exile, and a secure retreat in the capital of a free nation, when a new and unexpected event, in consequence of which all Europe was convulsed, once more brought him upon the scene, and restored him to his country.

* The aldermen Beckford and Trecothick, together with Samuel Vaughan, Esq. were the trustees appointed by the subscribers; and the writer of this article is in possession of an original paper, containing an account of the donations.

In

In consequence of the French revolution, a better fate appeared to be reserved for Corsica, hitherto treated and considered during the monarchy as a conquered country. A more generous system now seemed about to prevail, and this island, instead of a dependent province, was recognized as a part of the nation, and assumed the name of a department. On this occasion their former leader transmitted and published a letter to his countrymen, congratulating them on the recovery of their liberty, but lamenting, at the same time, that as Corsica still constituted part of France, he could not rejoin them consistently with the principles of gratitude, and his attachment to the English nation, from which he had long received, and was still receiving great favours.

Such, however, was the anxiety of his countrymen in behalf of the man who had vindicated their liberties, and such, it must be added, was the generous zeal of the members of the first assembly, that Paoli at length resigned his pension, and was induced to repair to Paris, and appear at the bar of the national assembly. His reception on this occasion was at once brilliant and affecting. Nor was the conduct of this veteran chief unworthy his reputation. In an eloquent speech, delivered upon this occasion, he observed, that after a painful exile of twenty years, he now felt it the happiest moment of his life to see liberty restored to his country, by the generosity of the French; and he expressed an earnest desire to contribute as far as it was in his power to the happiness of his fellow-citizens. Sentiments like these, when uttered by such a man, could

could not fail to make a suitable impression. They were accordingly re-echoed from one end of Europe to another, and received by the national assembly with the highest respect; for immediately after this the oath of fidelity "to the law, the nation, and the king," being tendered and taken, Paoli was restored to his former command, and preparations made for his embarkation.

He accordingly repaired to his native country, where he was received with rapture, and appeared at length destined to enjoy a happy and honourable asylum during the remainder of his life. But new and important changes awaited him, and it was his fate once more to behold Corsica agitated by rival parties, and to find himself again tossed about by the tempest of politics.

The arrest, trial, and execution of Louis XVI. produced considerable sensation, and was even followed by some tumults in the department of Corsica. But it was the tyrannical conduct of some of the factious demagogues, the overthrow, as well as the murder of the patriots, joined to the blood shed throughout the empire, and the chains which hung suspended over the heads of all, that more immediately led to the insurrection which ensued. Paoli appeared to be carried away with, while in fact he directed the stream, and not only armed his partisans, but instigated the whole nation to resistance. On this the convention, which had received timely intimation of his plans, immediately summoned him to appear at its bar on purpose to give an account of his conduct. That tribunal,

bunal, however, had now lost its character for impartiality, and a hoary politician was not to be caught in so slender a web as was spread for him upon this occasion. He was therefore declared a traitor, and a price set upon his head.

In the mean time Paoli, surrounded by his trusty followers, resided at Corte, a town of difficult access, being situate in the centre of the island. He was powerfully supported by the whole body of the clergy, who were instigated upon this occasion by no common animosity; they had indeed been alienated before, by the decree for applying the domains of the church, to liquidate the debts of the state. This party, by far the more numerous, as all true believers were called upon for their assistance, was denominated "the sacred band," and to it was only opposed a few hundred French who garrisoned the three maritime towns of San Fiorenzo, Bastia, and Calvi; but these were supported and countenanced on the other hand by a body of the natives, headed by Arena, Casa-Bianca, Saliceti, and Gentili, who still remained firmly attached to the convention.

The policy and sagacity of Paoli finally triumphed. Knowing that Corsica could not either acquire or retain her independence, when confined to her own efforts, and foreseeing that she must finally make her election between the two powerful countries which then agitated all Europe with their rival fleets and armies, he determined to declare for England, under the government of which, he was certain that his countrymen would enjoy the most permanent tranquillity.

quillity. The task was difficult and even hazardous, for at this period, the forces of Great Britain had been obliged to evacuate Toulon, and her fleet was navigating the Mediterranean, in search of a port in which it could find shelter. Notwithstanding this situation of affairs, the gallant chief did not hesitate to come to an immediate decision, for he immediately transmitted dispatches to Admiral Lord Hood, in which he invoked his assistance against the French, and stated that Corsica was ready to declare in favour of the King of Great Britain.

The nobleman to whom he addressed himself upon this occasion, behaved with his usual prudence and circumspection. Determined on one hand to do nothing rashly, and on the other, to let no fair opportunity escape, of adding to the territories and prosperity of his native country, he bethought himself of obtaining information from some confidential person, who might visit the island, converse with the inhabitants, and report to him the result. Colonel, now General Moore, the officer selected upon this occasion, was accordingly landed at a place agreed upon, and being conducted into the country, was thus enabled to make his own observations on the spot.

These proving highly satisfactory, a fleet, on board of which was Sir Gilbert Elliot, now Lord Minto, in the character of commissioner from his Britannic Majesty, made its appearance in Bastia roads, and that gentleman, in conjunction with the naval commander in chief, immediately published a letter to General Paoli, dated on board the Victory, April 21, 1794.

In

In this they stated that they had repaired thither, in consequence of a solicitation on the part of his excellency, in the name of the people of Corsica, and now proferred "the aid of his Majesty's naval and military forces in the Mediterranean, towards expelling the common enemy."

"It is with the most lively satisfaction we acquaint your excellency (it is added), that we have it in command from his Majesty to assent on his part to such a system as will cement the union of our two nations under a common Sovereign, and at the same time secure for ever the independence of Corsica, and the preservation of her ancient constitution, laws, and religion. With whatever satisfaction his Majesty has graciously assented to propositions, which promise, perhaps, for the first time, not only to afford to this island the blessings of tranquillity and peace, and a sudden increase of prosperity and wealth, but also to establish its natural independence and happiness on a secure and lasting foundation, his Majesty is, however, determined to conclude nothing without the general and free consent of the people of Corsica. We therefore request your excellency to take the proper steps for submitting these important matters to their judgment, and as the small number of the enemy invested at present by the British and Corsican troops, and which must soon either be destroyed or yield to superior force, can no longer give any uneasines to this country; but the freedom and deliverance of Corsica are in effect accomplished; we beg leave to submit to your excellency, whether it may not be desirable to take the earliest measures for terminating these interesting concerns, and for adding a formal sanction to that union which is already established in the hearts of all our countrymen."

In consequence of this memorial, General Paoli addressed a letter "to his dearly-beloved countrymen," dated Furiani, May 1, 1794, in which he reminds them of "the many cruel and treacherous arrangements made by the three commissioners of the French nation, who were sent over to their island, and in what manner

manner they attempted to concentrate the powers of government in a small number of their satellites, destined to be the instruments of those violences and cruelties, which were to be exercised against all well-meaning persons, and against the nation at large." He then notices "the unjust decree which ordered his own arrest, and transfer to the bar of the assembly," against which they themselves had remonstrated. After complimenting them for having retained their ancient bravery, and attachment to their country, he remarks that "he had felt the necessity of foreign assistance, and in conformity to their general wishes, and to the public opinion and universal expectation, had recourse to the king and generous and powerful nation, which had on other occasions protected the remains of their liberty." He then concludes, by proposing a general assembly of deputies, to be convoked at Corte, on the 8th of June, on purpose to consider of the propriety of the projected union, and form a government founded on the model of Great Britain. "With respect to myself, my dearly-beloved countrymen, (continues he) after having devoted every moment of my life to your happiness, I shall esteem myself the happiest of mankind if, through the means I have derived from your confidence, I can obtain for our country the opportunity of forming a free and lasting government, and of preserving to Corsica its name, its unity, and its independence, whilst the names of the heroes, who have spilt their blood in its support and defence, will be, for future generations, objects of noble emulation and grateful remembrance."

Lady Hamilton.

Mr. Fry.

In consequence of this invitation, a general *consulta* of deputies accordingly took place, at the time and in the town already specified, by means of letters of convocation expressly issued for this purpose;* and in the dispatch of the commissioner† upon this occasion it is expressly stated, "that the union of Corsica to the crown of Great Britain is finally and formally concluded, and that no national act was ever sanctioned by a more unanimous proceeding on the part of those who were authorised to do it, or by a more universal approbation, amounting, I may say, to enthusiasm, on the part of the people."

On the day following, *Te Deum* was sung in the cathedral, accompanied by the discharge of artillery, and prayers were offered up for his Majesty, by the name of George the Third, King of Great Britain and Corsica. In the evening the town was illuminated, and the inhabitants demonstrated their loyalty and joy by every means in their power. A new constitution, brilliant indeed, but unsuitable perhaps to the genius of the natives, was soon after formed and promulgated; while, by way of recognition of the annexation of Corsica to the crown of England, a coinage took place at the Tower of London, and the arms of Corsica were quartered with those of Great Britain.‡

But unhappily, amidst this tumult of joy and satis-

* General Paoli was chosen president upon this occasion, and M. Pozzodi Bargo and M. Muselli were nominated secretaries.

† Sir Gilbert Elliot.

‡ A few only of the guineas came into circulation, in consequence of subsequent events.

faction,

faction, a coolness took place between the English viceroy and the Corsican general, in consequence of which the latter, who had hoped to spend the remainder of his life in his native country, deemed it necessary, for the preservation of the public peace, to embrace a voluntary exile. It would ill become the writer of this article to endeavour, in this place, to withdraw the veil which is thrown by policy over the springs of human events, and to investigate the causes of the unhappy reverses that soon after took place, and which in the end subverted the dominion of England in the island of Corsica. Certain it is, that the natives very powerfully contributed to the expulsion of the French, and that their zeal after the departure of their beloved commander waxed more cool daily. Had he been permitted to remain on the spot, his presence, perhaps, would have revived their enthusiasm, as well as reanimated their efforts, and the conqueror of Italy might not have so easily succeeded, in once more planting the French standard on the battlements of the island.

It is but justice, however, to remark, that no blame can attach to Paoli, who previously to his departure addressed a letter to his countrymen, in which he conjured them to remain firm in their friendship and allegiance to Great Britain. To put his own fidelity entirely out of dispute, he himself, after a short residence in Italy, repaired to England; and as he had experienced a considerable loss, in consequence of the failure of a mercantile house at Leghorn, to which he had entrusted the whole of his little fortune,

fortune, and no immediate offers were made to restore his pension, the general was for some time content with an obscure lodging in Oxford-street. As a mark of royal munificence* was *intended* to have been exhibited soon after, there can be but little doubt that the Corsican chief is now rescued from penury, and restored to that affluence which he so well deserves.

General Paoli is now near seventy-seven years of age, and he appeared to the author, about three years ago, to have suffered less from the pressure of time, than any *septuagesenary* he had ever seen or visited before. His countenance was then hale and ruddy, his step firm, and his eye piercing; but what he chiefly remarked, was the fluency with which the General spoke English, not disdaining, like too many foreigners, to become acquainted with the language of the nation among which he resided. It is thus that he was described by Boswell in 1766, when he visited him at Sollacrao:

"Leaving my servant with my guides, I past through the guards, and was met by some of the general's people, who conducted me into an anti-chamber, where were several gentlemen in waiting. Signor Boccociampe had notified my arrival, and I was shewn into Paoli's room. I found him alone, and was struck with his appearance. He is tall, strong, and well made; of a fair complexion, a sensible, free and open countenance, and a manly and noble

* Among the items of the civil list presented to the house of commons, in March 1802, appeared a charge of seven hundred and sixty-two pounds to Duval and Co. for the expence of a picture from his Majesty to General Paoli. Mr. Jones said upon this occasion, "he was always happy to see an instance of munificence on the part of the Sovereign to so distinguished a character as General Paoli; but, strange to tell, if his information was correct, General Paoli had never received the picture."

carriage. He was then in his fortieth year. He was dressed in green and gold. He used to wear a common Corsican habit; but on the arrival of the French he thought a little external elegance might be of use to make the government appear in a more respectable light."

Paoli has associated with, and been praised by many men of literary eminence. Rousseau mentions his efforts to liberate an oppressed people from their fetters, with the most unreserved praise, and loudly condemns the French for their rapacious and predatory attempt on the independence of Corsica.

During his residence in England he cultivated an acquaintance with Mrs. Macaulay, who entertained a high respect for his talents and his patriotism; he also lived in habits of familiarity with Goldsmith and Johnson, by whom he was highly esteemed, and the biographer of the latter has been at uncommon pains to record his merits, and repeat his sayings;* while

* Substance of a conversation between General Paoli and Dr. Johnson, from Boswell's Life of Johnson:

Said the Doctor, addressing Boswell, "Sir, what is all this rout about the Corsicans? They have been at war with the Genoese for upwards of twenty years, and have never yet taken their fortified towns. They might have battered down their walls, and reduced them to powder in twenty years. They might have pulled the walls to pieces, and cracked the stones with their teeth, in twenty years." It was in vain to argue with him upon the want of artillery: he was not to be resisted for the moment.

"On the evening of October 10 I presented Dr. Johnson to General Paoli. I had greatly wished that two men, for whom I had the highest esteem, should meet. They met with a manly ease, mutually conscious of their own abilities, and of the abilities of each other. The General spoke Italian, and Dr. Johnson English, and understood one another very well, with a little aid of interpretation

the great and good Lord Lyttelton was pleased to wish, a little before his death, "that he had been a few years younger, on purpose to go on pilgrimage to

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terpretation from me, in which I compared myself to an isthmus which joins two great continents."

Upon Johnson's approach, the General said, "From what I have read of your works, Sir, and from what Mr. Boswell has told me of you, I have long held you in great veneration."

The General talked of languages being formed on the particular notions and manners of a people, without knowing which we cannot know the language. We may know the direct signification of single words; but by these no beauty of expression, no sally of genius, no wit is conveyed to the mind. All this must be by allusion to other ideas.

"Sir, (said Johnson) you talk of language, as if you never had done any thing else but study it, instead of governing a nation."

The General said, "Questo e un troppo gran complimento," this is too great a compliment.—Johnson answered, "I should have thought so, Sir, if I had not heard you talk."

The General asked him, what he thought of the spirit of infidelity which was so prevalent?—Johnson. "Sir, this gloom of infidelity, I hope, is only a transient cloud passing through the hemisphere, which will soon be dissipated, and the sun break forth with his usual splendour."—"You think, then, (said the General) that they will change their principles like their clothes."—Johnson. "Why, Sir, if they bestow no more thought on principles than on dress, it must be so."

The General said, that "a great part of the fashionable infidelity was owing to a desire of shewing courage. Men who have no opportunity of showing it as to things in this life, take death and futurity as objects on which to display it."—Johnson. "That is mighty foolish affectation. Fear is one of the passions of human nature, of which it is impossible to divest it. You remember that the emperor Charles V. when he read upon the tomb-stone of a Spanish nobleman, "here lies one who never knew fear," wittily said, "then he never snuffed a candle with his fingers."

Corsica, that he might visit this living image of ancient virtue, and venerate in the mind of Pascal Paoli, the spirit of Timoleon and Epaminondas."

He talked a few words of French to the General; but finding he did not do it with facility, he asked for pen, ink, and paper, and wrote the following note:

"J'ai lu dans la geographie de Lucas de Linda un pater-noster écrit dans un langue tout-à-fait differente de l'Italienne, et de toutes autres lesquelles se derivent du Latin. L'auteur l'appelle LINGUAM CORSICÆ RUSTICAM; elle a peutêtre passe, peu à peu; mais elle a certainement prévalue autrefois dans les montagnes et dans la campagne. Le même auteur dit la même chose en parlant de Sardaigne; qu'il y a deux langues dans l'isle; une des villes, l'autre de la campagne."

The General immediately informed him that "lingua rustica" was only in Sardinia.——Vol. I. page 314.

General Paoli said of Goldsmith's new play: "Monsieur Goldsmith est comme la mer que porte des perles et beaucoup d'autres belles choses, sans s'en appercevoir."—Goldsmith replied, "Très bien dit, et très élégamment."——Vol. I. page 399.

General Paoli observed to Mr. Boswell upon death: "That it is impossible not to be afraid of death; and that those who at the time of dying are not afraid, are not thinking of death, but of applause, or something else, which keeps death out of their sight: so that all men are equally afraid of death when they see it; only some have a power of turning their sight away from it better than others."——Vol. II. page 144.

"On Friday, June 25, Mr. Boswell dined in company with Dr. Johnson at General Paoli's, and there being a variety of dishes much to the Doctor's taste, of all of which he was observed to eat so much, Mr. Boswell whispered the General not to press him any more. "Alas! (said the General) see how very ill he looks; he can live but a very short time; would you refuse any slight gratifications to a man under sentence of death? There is a humane custom in Italy, by which persons in that melancholy situation are indulged with having whatever they like best to eat and drink, even with expensive delicacies."——Vol. II. page 523.

Mr.

MR. BRAHAM.*

THE pen of the biographer is never more pleasingly, nor, perhaps, more beneficially engaged than in recording the progress of genius, seconded by emulation and perseverance. Sedulous exertion is in itself honourable to the mental powers, and intimates a stamina of mind, and manliness of feeling, which, in whatever art or science they are employed, augment the sum of public utility, and extort respect: but when *talent* forms the groundwork, and that secret, glowing ambition which grasps at every attainable excellence, urges the student forward to his destined superiority, every movement becomes interesting; we retrace the steps of his elevation with a felicitous concern, and add to our respect the tribute of admiration.

The individual to whose successful efforts we allude, and to whose professional merits the musical public have been indebted for so large a portion of their amusement, is descended from the German stock of the Jewish nation. Having in his earliest years the misfortune to become an orphan, the seasonable and affectionate attention of a near relation supplied in a great measure the loss of his parents. But to whatever degree this kindness might extend, it probably would never have induced the developement of those powers which were one day to fascinate every cultivated ear, had not fortune provided a patron with a judgment qualified to appreciate and improve the

* Communicated by Dr. Busby.

dawning gifts of nature, and a heart formed to cherish and protect unconscious genius.

Happily for young Braham, when he was about twelve years old, Leoni, whose fine *falsetto* voice and polished taste long delighted the frequenters of the Synagogue in Duke's-place, Covent-garden theatre, and all the first concerts in London, became acquainted with his musical endowments, and instantly felt in them a claim to his encouragement and protection: that admired performer, accordingly, in the pure spirit of philanthropy, took upon himself the double charge of father and tutor; of providing for and instructing the youth whose promised excellence engaged his affections; and he enjoyed the gratification of witnessing the rapid expansion of those talents, the early indications of which had attracted his benevolent notice: indeed, so extraordinary were the advances of his pupil in the road to pre-eminence, that before he reached the age of fifteen, he in some particular acquisitions left his tutor behind him, who in turn actually became the scholar, and produced in his songs many a graceful novelty for which he was indebted to the suggestions of his young *protegé*; these instances are, however, to be received as proofs of Braham's improving *taste* rather than of his *scientific* progress; since Leoni, though so charming and justly-admired a performer, went no farther in his musical accomplishments than to what regards *taste* and *manner*; and being generously determined to make something more of his pupil than a mere singer, he engaged for him a more qualified master, by whom he

he was instructed on the piano-forte, and in musical theory.

About this time the project of the late Mr. John Palmer for establishing a theatre in the liberties of the Tower-Hamlet was brought into operation; and young Braham's first public effort was, among other novelties, presented to the audiences of Wellclose-square. His voice, though distinguished by its compass, which extended from the tenor B flat to B flat in alt, was still more remarkable for its peculiar sweetness of tone; and the power of execution procured by juvenile practice, was aided by an expression and sentiment indicative of mental manhood. Not being able to procure a patent for dramatic performances, strictly so called, Mr. Palmer, to support his new speculation, was under the necessity of resorting to miscellaneous bills of fare, consisting of pantomimic exhibitions, detached speeches, addresses, catches, glees, and detached songs. Every evening therefore afforded an opening for the display of Braham's early powers, which generally shone forth in some of the bravura songs at that time rendered popular by the performance of Madam Mara; among which he was particularly happy in his execution of "The Soldier tir'd of war's alarms," and *Se libera non sono*, a bravura song composed by Gresnic. The regular pieces in which he appeared at that theatre were the Birth-day, composed by Carter, and Hero and Leander, by Reeves, in the former of which he performed the part of Cupid, and in the latter that of Hymen. He at this time had not acquired the art of sight-singing, but was uncom-

monly ready at catching the *motivo* of an air, and the meaning of the author; and the writer of this account well remembers the wonderful facility with which young Mr. Braham learned a part in a difficult duet which he composed for him and Miss George, and which was repeatedly sung by them at the *Royalty*. During two years he greatly contributed to the amusement and delight of the town, and continually gained on the public favour: about this period, being in his eighteenth year, his voice broke, and he for a while retired to private practice and theoretical study.

Shortly after this period, Mr. Leoni, on account of domestic concerns, was under the necessity of going to Jamaica, and Mr. Braham had once more the misfortune to find himself in an orphan state; but with this difference in his favour; that the publicity of his late powers had not only produced him numerous admirers, but many *friends*, among whom the most conspicuous were the Goldsmids, a family as well known to the public as respected by their private connections. Patronised by these and other distinguished amateurs, he taught the piano-forte, and found in his new avocation an ample provision for his present occasions. But though by the failure of his vocal organs the power of execution was checked, the impulse of nature remained, and instrumental music was but a temporary resource; the restoration of his voice was a circumstance not only "devoutly to be wished," but was most earnestly sought; and every musical society he visited witnessed his strenuous exertions

ertions to regain that excellence which had procured him so much celebrity.

His voice, by care and constant application, soon began to assume a pleasantness of tone, as well as a considerable degree of strength, when accidentally meeting with Mr. Ashe, who was struck with a purity of taste from which he predicted the greatest future eminence, that celebrated flutist advised him to accept an engagement then proferred him from Bath, to which proposal he listened, and accordingly, in the year 1794, made his *debut* as a tenor singer at that periodical resort of fashion. Rauzzini, who may be called the *musician of Bath*, living there without a rival,—Rauzzini, the liberal and enlightened—the hospitable and accomplished—the generous lover of merit—voluntarily became the patron and the improver of Braham, who with gratitude and pride acknowledges the obligations due to his tutor and protector, and imputes most of the leading features of his present vocal excellence to the invaluable lessons he received from that able and judicious master. Under Rauzzini, Braham's subjects of study were the songs of Handel, and those of the first Italian masters: Mr. Rauzzini composed one song for him from Metastasio, which, on account of the brilliant rapidity and trying *sostenuto* of the passages, no singer but Braham, he says, could execute. To have had a principal share in producing such professional accomplishments is highly creditable to Mr. Rauzzini's taste and preceptive qualifications; but the excellence of his heart will be allowed to transcend even that of his head, when it is known,

known, that Mr. Braham, after receiving three years gratuitous domestic protection and instruction, having sung at his annual concert, Mr. Rauzzini, nobly forgetful of his own past services, *insisted* on his accepting an ample pecuniary remuneration for his performance.

The fame of such pre-eminent vocal powers as procured Mr. Braham the admiration of every real judge of fine singing could not long be confined to Bath; and the late ingenious, scientific and tasteful Stephen Storace, composer to Drury-lane theatre, among many other lovers of refined vociferation in the metropolis, was induced to take a journey to that city to hear him. The result was an immediate engagement to perform for a certain number of evenings at the above theatre; and Mr. Braham accordingly made his first appearance in London as a *tenor* singer, in the spring of 1796.

The extraordinary *eclat* with which Mr. Braham acquitted himself on Drury-lane stage induced the managers to produce with all possible speed a new opera for the further display of his shining abilities. But unfortunately, while the scenic decorations were preparing, Mr. Storace, to whose polished genius the composition of the music was confided, sunk in the midst of his task to an early grave, the victim of a too incessant and too intense devotion to professional avocations. The operations for the opera, however, proceeded; and the loss of original and departed talent was compensated in the best way time and the situation of the theatre would admit, by resorting to adaptations and selections, formed in part by Signora Storace,

Storace, the composer's sister, and long-established favourite of the public; when at length Mr. Braham made his *entrée* in Mahmoud, and was received with all that warmth of applause due to his interesting tone of voice, clear articulation, impressive intonation, and free and felicitous execution.

During this season Mr. Braham also sung at Salomon's concerts and at the Hanover-square rooms, as well as at the oratorios, and many private musical parties, to the delight of his various and numerous audiences, and to the increase of his vocal reputation.

Notwithstanding the elevation he now attained as a public singer, Mr. Braham had acquired too nice a discrimination and too scrupulous a judgment to be wholly satisfied with his present acquisitions; and accordingly, at the instance and persuasion of St George, the celebrated fencer, resolved to avail himself of the several examples of excellence on the continent, particularly in that region of melody, Italy. For this emulative and laudable purpose he left England, in company with Signora Storace, and arrived with that fine comic performer in Paris the day preceding the 18th of Fructidor. The revolutionary furor had not so absorbed the minds and feelings of the Parisians as to extinguish taste and musical presentiment, and their performances in the French capital were listened to with the most eager delight; though they originally designed to quit Paris in three weeks, the courteous attentions they universally experienced so gratefully operated on their feelings, as to superinduce the determination to prolong their visit; and they actually

actually remainded there eight months. During this time they received encreasing testimonies of public and private esteem, and the concerts they gave were thronged at the price of a *louis* a ticket, though the general admittance to concerts was only six *francs*; and had immediately pecuniary emolument been the sole object of their visit to that metropolis, they might have had the superintendence of a newly-established opera, at the annual salary of fourteen hundred *louis*. But *professional improvement* was the grand *desideratum* with Mr. Braham, and in the ensuing May he quitted the capital in which he had received such gratifying proofs of public generosity and private regard, and set out for Italy, amply provided with letters of recommendation and protection from the *directory* to the ambassadors of France in the several Italian states.

The first display of Mr. Braham's talents on the Italian stage was at Florence, in the character of Ulysses, where he met with that warm reception due to his high professional pretensions. While he was there, that celebrated vocal performer David invited him to dinner: in the evening they sung to each other several airs. One of Mr. Braham's was the *bravura* composed for him by Rauzzini; after his execution of which, David said, "*Nella mia gioventu ho potuto far l'istesso*," In my youth I could do the same: and being asked who he thought the best tenor in Italy, he answered, "*Dopo di me l'Inglese*," Next to me th Englishman. After delighting the refined amateurs of the capital of Tuscany, and listening to the various specimens of vocal excellence exhibited in that celebrated

brated and beautiful city, he proceeded to Milan, and thence to Genoa, where he performed with Marchesi in the opera of Lodoiska thirty nights successively. In this piece they sung a beautiful duet, which excited such a *furore*, as the Italians term it, that the audience insisted on their coming forward three several times to receive their applause. At this place he was induced to prolong his stay, for the advantage of receiving instructions in composition from the highly ingenious and able Maestro Isola, of the taste of whose school he has since given such pleasing samples. Every fact, in evidence of honorary attention, adds to the character to which it appertains, and is worthy the biographer's notice: it ought not therefore to be omitted, that Marchesi, when Mr. Braham first met that great and distinguished singer at Milan, expressed his regret that his advanced age prevented him the pleasure of accompanying him through Italy. General Massena obliged him and Storace to perform in an opera; and the Florentines, in a letter addressed to him, acknowledged the superior claims produced by England to the palm in vocal performance, in Mrs. Billington, Signora Storace, and himself: nor should it be forgotten that the siege of Genoa having taken place while Mr. Braham and Storace were in that city, their professional talents ranked so high in the general estimation as to command, amidst all the horrors and outrages of a furious political warfare, perfect security and respect.

At Genoa Mr. Braham received advantageous offers from the operatical managers at Naples; but the distracted

distracted state of that country little according with the mental composure of mind necessary to that improvement which formed the grand object of his travels, he declined their acceptance, and shaped his course to Leghorn, where he received the most flattering attention from Lord Nelson. With that naval hero he and Storace had once the honour to dine, on board the Foudroyant, and there to sing to the queen of Naples, who visited the ship on purpose to hear them. From Leghorn they went to Venice, where they sung in a new opera composed by Cimaroso. That great musician and real genius was engaged by the theatre of the *Fenice* to write an opera expressly for the display of their extraordinary powers, for which purpose he came from Naples. When Mr. Braham was introduced to him, he intimated his high opinion of his vocal abilities, by saying he would compose for him such a *scena* as had never yet been heard in Venice: and this was his last composition; for he kept his word and died, poisoned, as was suspected, by a rival composer, impatient of his high and well-merited fame.

From Venice Mr. Braham went to Trieste, and thence to Hamburgh, at each of which places the plaudits he received kept pace with his high deserts, and demonstrated the taste of his crowded and gratified audiences.

His growing fame on the continent reached England, and while he was at the last-mentioned city he received various solicitations for his return to London. Among these were offers from Mr. Harris, the proprietor

prietor of Covent-garden theatre, of such a nature as to induce him to forego other pending engagements, especially with the theatres of Milan and Vienna.

At length he left Hamburgh for London, where, with Signora Storace, he arrived early in the winter of 1801. Both these celebrated singers engaged themselves with Mr. Harris; but whether the proprietor finding himself for a while sufficiently strong by the acquisition of Mrs. Billington, who in the preceding summer had returned to England from a continental tour, chose to reserve his other novelties; or that these attractive performers waited for the preparation of a new opera, in which they were to make their first appearance at his theatre; whichever of these was the cause, during the early part of the season they were at Bath, and did not shew themselves on the Covent-garden boards till after Christmas, when they took their parts in a new opera, written by Mr. Prince Hoare, and called "Chains of the Heart;" the music composed by Mr. Mazzinghi and Mr. Reeve.

Mr. Braham even in the first strain of his first song evinced all his reported improvement, both in his style of expression and the adjustment of his voice. His cadences were rich, graceful, and highly artificial; his tones more firm, yet more mellow and interesting, than when he left England; and his accent clearer and more impressive; his *roulades* were given with an encreased ease and volatility; his *portamento* was commanding, and his *register* or compass, which most happily blended the *voce di testa* with the *voce di petto*, was considerably extended both above and below.

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He consequently acquitted himself as much to the delight as surprize of his audience; and if any thing could have secured the opera from that oblivion into which, after languishing on the stage a few nights, it was doomed to sink, it would have been Mr. Braham's exquisite vociferation, and Signora Storace's fine comic acting.

"Chains of the Heart" having failed of its expected attractions, a new opera written by Mr. T. Dibden, called "the Cabinet," was immediately put into preparation, and the production of the music committed to that excellent dramatic composer, Mr. Shield. But that gentleman, having for some reason, in rather a late stage of the business, declined the task, the pressure for time did not admit of any single composer's undertaking it; the different songs were accordingly distributed to a variety of hands; and Mr. Braham produced his own, as also some of those sung by Signora Storace. The success of this opera induced the manager to again resort to various masters for the production of operatical music; and "Family Quarrels," another piece by the same author, was supplied, though not with equal success, from the same multifarious sources.

During the season to which we allude, applications were made to Mr. Braham, from Germany and Italy; but Mr. Harris's offers, and the superior pleasure of gratifying an English audience, predominated, and induced his stay in this country. Previous to the close of last season, he entered into a new contract with Mr. Harris, and after fulfilling some provincial engagements,

ments, will again make his appearance at Covent-garden.

Having traced Mr. Braham in his professional career from the first discovery of his vocal talents to the present moment, we have only to add that, without intending to attach more importance than it possesses, to an art which claiming none of the higher powers of the mind, and only contributing to our amusement, cannot be ranked with efforts of mental dignity and moral usefulness, we have endeavoured to do justice to an individual whose prominent abilities have been thought to render him worthy a place among the public characters of his country, and to whose exertions every musical amateur owes a real and refined gratification.

MR. ANGERSTEIN.

IN every commercial country its traders deserve a high degree of consideration, and Great Britain is, in a great measure, indebted for her present wealth, prosperity, and grandeur, to the zeal, spirit, and enterprize of her merchants. We are accordingly happy to introduce occasionally such characters as raise the esteem of our nation in foreign parts, while they render themselves revered and respected at home by their public and private virtues.

John Julius Angerstein was born in Petersburgh in 1735. He is descended from a respectable family, and came over to England about 1749, under the patronage of the late Andrew Thompson, Esq. an eminent Russia merchant, who lived long enough to celebrate the fiftieth year of a successful partnership.

It might be considered not only as a commercial, but a social jubilee, Mr. Thompson and his coadjutor having maintained for half a century an intercourse of friendship and business, as honourable to their affections as prosperous to their fortunes.

Young Angerstein was employed during some years in Mr. Thompson's counting-house; and when of age introduced by his worthy patron to Lloyd's.* Before we proceed further in this article, we will allot a short space to an explanation of one of the most important local objects in the trade of this enterprizing country, and indeed of the "great globe itself," namely, Lloyd's Coffee-house; a place universally heard of, yet very partially and imperfectly understood.

This establishment became many years since the resort of a very considerable body of English merchants, and other men of business, more especially brokers and underwriters, who assemble to divide among themselves, and to become responsible to each other for the losses produced by ships either damaged, captured, burnt, or subjected to any other injury, in the course of their different voyages. Considering the immense value trusted on the ocean in one bottom, such casualties would be too great for any one individual to hazard, however extensive his property, or enterprizing his spirit.

* The coffee-house in question derived its present appellation from its being first kept by a person of the name of Lloyd, who perhaps little imagined that it would progressively acquire a celebrity as great in the annals of the commercial world, as that of any emperor or king in the history of courts.

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This coffee-house is also a central point of political information, because our ministers, knowing its importance, select and appropriate this place as the medium of conveying the first intelligence of every national concern; and the tidings, whether good or bad, flow, as from an original source, to the public in general. Indeed, it has now enjoyed this distinction so long, that when even a rumour is in circulation, to say *we have it from Lloyd's*, gives it a currency and sanction that it would not otherwise be entitled to.

Mr. Angerstein, in consequence of his natural abilities, and his unwearied application, added to the constant observance of the excellent model from whom he derived his commercial education, soon became eminent as a broker and underwriter. In this last character, when his name appeared on a policy, it was a sufficient recommendation for the rest to follow where he led without further examination; accordingly other underwriters were eager to see policies sanctioned by his subscription, which speedily acquired so great an authority, that for some years after, by way of distinction, they were called *Julians.*

This commercial celebrity increased daily; the circle of his connexions in trade, the weight of his name, and the powers of his active and ready mind gradually expanded, until Mr. Angerstein attained that high degree of commercial importance, which is considered among the highest distinctions of this envied island, and, in truth, of the whole civilized world.

But to obtain this eminence great sacrifices were necessary; indeed, too great for most young men to

endure: yet, steady to his purpose, neither youth, health, nor any of its enjoyments, were powerful enough to seduce him from the regular pursuit of his object, which demanded incessant toil and unwearied perseverance.

Previously to the erection of the present suite of apartments, the insurance business was carried on in a more circumscribed place in Pope's-head-alley. The frequenters of old Lloyd's finding the rooms extremely inauspicious to health, and inconvenient in respect to business, on account of its size and situation, agreed to open a subscription for the purposes of obtaining a more suitable establishment. To carry this salutary measure into execution, a committee was appointed, and a considerable sum raised; yet a number of years elapsed before any great progress was made towards attaining so necessary an object.

At length Mr. Angerstein, always interweaving the comfort and advantage of others with his own, called a meeting of the subscribers, and having obtained their consent to be invested with a temporary authority, he, in his *own* name, procured for *their* accommodation, the large and lofty apartments formerly occupied by the "British Herring-fishery." When even these at last became too small, in consequence of the increasing prosperity of the empire, he made a fresh purchase, and by adding the "Merchant Seamen's office" to the former, rendered it not only the most complete establishment of the kind in England, but also in Europe. Great public good as well as private advantage resulted from his labours, for the magnitude

magnitude and conveniency of the new arrangement put an entire stop to the transaction of business in private offices scattered throughout the metropolis, and thus economised *time*, which is only another word for money, in the dictionary of an English merchant.

In short, Lloyd's coffee-house is now an empire within itself; an empire which, in point of commercial sway, variety of powers, and almost incalculable resources, gives laws to the trading part of the universe; and if we combine its authority with the grand mart of business below,* there is not a place upon the face of the earth can vie with this palladium of English merchants.

Among the many great services which Mr. Angerstein has rendered to the interests of this coffee-house, the following is by no means the least important. It was formerly but too common a practice when vessels had acquired a bad name, from their imperfect state, to send them to some other port than those where they were known, and by *re-baptizing*, make them pass for ships of fair character. To remedy this evil, he applied for and obtained an act, by virtue of which no owner could change the name by which his vessel was first distinguished. The benefit derived from this measure is incredible.

Another prominent object of public good was effected by the zeal and activity of the subject of this memoir, in respect to the issuing of exchequer-bills. In or about the year 1793, there was an alarming want of confidence, the worst want that commerce can ex-

* The Royal Exchange.

perience. This arose from a variety of causes, and among the rest, the non-arrival of fleets long expected from various quarters. The great public evil originating from the then situation of France is also too obvious to every man acquainted with public business, to require mention here; for trade drooped, and was shorn of half its honours and advantages, from that circumstance alone.

To re-establish commercial credit, therefore, Mr. Angerstein, after much opposition from some of the first merchants in the city, the motives for which we will not at this distance of time scrutinize, was the sole means of procuring from Mr. Pitt a loan through the medium of exchequer-bills. This had for its object the assisting merchants to realise a sum of money, which lay dormant in colonial produce, to an amount nearly incalculable. The measure was fully adequate to the exigence; yet it is but simple justice to remark, that Mr. Angerstein was equally disinterested in the application and the success arising from it, except in respect to the private gratification which always results to a good citizen from the establishment and diffusion of public good.

We have next to notice that Mr. Angerstein was the means of effecting a most important service to the revenue, by inviting that spirit of enterprize whence a foreign power long derived great benefit, and which by Mr. Angerstein's address was now transferred to our own country. He observed to the minister, that gaming was carried on in foreign lotteries to a prodigious extent; and that he was persuaded if one were established

established in England, the advantage to the state would be obvious. In consequence of these remarks, of the propriety of which the minister was soon made sensible, a lottery was immediately proposed, and sanctioned by parliament. Mr. Angerstein and his party engaged to take one half the tickets issued. The plan was a master-stroke; from this time we may date the decided, active, and important part he has always taken in public loans, and from the eagerness which the most respectable of the commercial body have always shewn to be upon Mr. Angerstein's list, it has ever ranked amongst the first. But, indeed, happiness in conceiving a public measure, perseverance in maturing, and felicity in bringing it forth, have characterised most of the plans of this very estimable man.

We have next to record a spirited and successful enterprize of another kind. The public have in recollection the atrocities of a being, better known under the name of the *Monster* than that of Renwick Williams, whose practice it was to pursue and maim undefended women with a pointed instrument. This wretch continued his dark and dastardly practices for a considerable time, to the terror of the female world. Mr. Angerstein, indignant at such enormities, and ever anxious to redress public grievances of whatever nature, proposed a subscription to bring the offender to justice. The plan, however, meeting with little encouragement, the *Monster* was suffered to pursue his assassinating purposes, till Mr. Angerstein, without regarding personal danger, or any other impediment

attendant upon such a prosecution, took upon himself to stop the progress of this pest of society: accordingly the villain was apprehended; he was tried in four or five actions, and cast in three of them. Yet much as we have rejoiced at the general benignity and mercy of the English laws, it is deeply to be regretted, in this instance, that their lenity only sentenced to six years imprisonment a culprit, for crimes which in any other country would have been followed by the punishment of death.

The promptitude with which Mr. Angerstein obeys a great and good impulse, on the above or any other given occasion, is to be ranked amongst the most happy and remarkable points in his character, and, indeed, in the very formation of his mind. He is suddenly struck with a point of public utility, a private service that ought to be attempted, and if possible attained. The idea is no sooner conceived, than it grows upon his feelings. He proceeds, without loss of a moment, from contemplation to action; he kindles as he goes along: once convinced of the solid value, expediency, propriety or wisdom of any measure, he suffers not the coldness of delay to hang upon it,

"To nip and blast its favour like a frost,"

as Rowe finely expresses it; but he proceeds with unabated steadiness, yet with the warmest zeal towards the object, till he has accomplished which neither his body nor mind seem to be at rest; and it is only when his efforts have been crowned with success

cess that he enjoys the sweet repose which is the reward of his labours.*

We are also indebted to Mr. Angerstein's unwearied attention to public objects, for the re-establishment of the Veterinary College, the funds of which were a few years back extremely low. His house in Pall-mall being a central point, he offered it to the gentlemen who interested themselves in this undertaking. A meeting accordingly took place, and a considerable sum was subscribed for its restoration. Since this period it has been in a progressive state of

* This might be illustrated by a comparatively minute circumstance, in which the same active and ardent principle is developed. He happened one Sunday, contrary to his usual custom, to join the Sabbath-day crowds which flock to Kensington-gardens, and upon entering the narrow gate which leads to them, his ears were assailed by violent shrieks from a female voice. He found these were occasioned by the mass of the multitude, and a blow from the elbow of a man on the breast of a lady leaving the garden as he was going in. Concluding that the same inconvenience would frequently arise till removed by an additional door, he asserted he would undertake one at his own expence, rather than the like mischiefs should arise. "Trifles, however, light as air," are often mountainous impediments to get even trifling accommodations effected, where applications are to pass through numerous hands. It is inconceivable, how much time and trouble was requisite to accomplish this little project. Mr. Angerstein was shifted from one official person to another, and a less persevering spirit would have given up the matter with disgust; but yielding to difficulty is not amongst Mr. Angerstein's characteristics. After the battledore and shuttlecock of opposition had become wearied, the door was made at the expence of the proper persons, to the daily accommodation of thousands, although, perhaps, not one of those very thousands knew the source whence they derived their convenience.

improvement,

improvement, and is at this time in a very flourishing condition.

It is also to be remembered, and greatly to his honour, that Mr. Angerstein was the first who proposed a reward of two thousand pounds from the fund of Lloyd's to that humane and glorious discovery, the life-boat, with the history of which it cannot but be pleasing to refresh the memory of our readers.

The Northumberland life-boat, so called from being built at the expence of his Grace the Duke of Northumberland, and presented by him to North Shields, was employed first in November 1798, when she went off to the relief of the sloop Edinburgh, of Kincardine, which was seen to ground upon the Herd-sands, about a mile and a half from the shore. Ralph Hillery, one of the seamen who went out in the life-boat to her assistance, relates that she was brought to an anchor before the life-boat got to her; but that the ship continued to strike the ground so heavily, that she would not have held together ten minutes longer had not the life-boat arrived: they instantly ordered her cable to be cut, and then took seven men out of her and brought them on shore; the sea was at that time so monstrous high, that no other boat whatever could have lived in it. He further stated, that in the event of the life-boat filling with water, she would continue still upright, and would not founder, as boats of a common construction do; that he has seen her go off scores of times, and never knew her fail in bringing off such of the crews as staid by their ships. It also saved (as appears from other accounts) the

the crew of the brig Clio, of Sunderland, when she struck upon the rocks, called the Black Middens, on the north side of the entrance of Tynemouth-haven. The boats in general of this description are painted white on the outside, this colour more immediately engaging the eye of the spectator at her rising from the hollow of the sea, than any other. The bottom is at first varnished (but so as to take paint afterwards), for the more minute inspection of purchasers. The oars she is equipped with are made of fir, of the best quality, having found by experience that a rove-ash oar that will dress clean and light is too pliant among the breakers; and when made strong and heavy, from rowing double banked, the purchase being short, sooner exhausts the rower, which makes the fir oar, when made stiff, far more preferable.

In the management of the boat, she requires twelve men to work her; that is, five men on each side, rowing double banked, with an oar slung over an iron thole, with a grommet so as to enable the rower to pull either way; and one man, at each end, to steer her and to be ready at the opposite end to take the *steer-oar* when wanted. As, from the construction of the boat, she is always in a position to be rowed either way, without turning, when manned, the person who steers her should be well acquainted with the course of the tides, in order to take every possible advantage; the best method, if the direction will admit of it, is to head the sea.

The steersman should keep his eye fixed upon the wave or breaker, and encourage the rowers to give way

way as the boat rises to it; being then aided by the force of the oars, she launches along with inconceivable rapidity, without shipping any water. It is necessary to observe, that there is often a strong reflux of the sea, occasioned by the stranded wreck, which requires both dispatch and care in the people employed, that the boat be not damaged. When the wreck is reached, if the wind blows to the land, the boat will come to the shore without any other effort than steering alone.

The same munificent spirit which characterizes Mr. Angerstein in every other act of private bounty, or public service, presents itself with equal splendour in the encouragement of British art, and the liberal purchase of those great works, the constant study of which is so necessary to its progress. The collection of pictures in Pall-mall is one of the first in Europe. In the list of modern masters may be found, among many others, the names of Sir Joshua Reynolds, and Mr. Pageli, of Mr. Parner, Mr. Hoppner, Mr. Westall, Mr. Lawrence, and Mr. Smirke.

It has likewise to boast of that unequalled series of pictures, *Marriage a la mode*; the happiest effort of our delightful painter of comedy and nature.

In the principal room hang the works of Raffaele, Correggio, Sebastian del Piombo, the Carraccios and Poussin; of Titian, Rubens, Rembrandt, and Vandyke, Claude, Jaspar, and Cuyp; all of them first-rate productions, and selected from the Orleans, the Borghese, and Colonna collections, the private ones of the King of Sardinia, the Duc de Bouillon, &c.

With

With the gallery at the Louvre, or that of Count Treuchsess in London, there can be no competition, they are indisputably the first; but no private room in Europe can equal this for the variety and grandeur of the subjects, the undoubted mark they bear of the works of each painter, their perfect preservation, and the high names of the masters.

One picture, "the raising of Lazarus," demands still greater attention, from its exhibiting the united powers of Michel Angelo, and Sebastian del Piombo; the groupe of Lazarus, and the figures immediately round him, have been pronounced by Mr. Fuzeli to be the *sole* work of the former; an authority which, combined with the history of the picture, cannot be disputed. Michel Angelo, it is well known, patronised Sebastian, and the work was painted in rivalry with Raffaele's "Transfiguration." It was afterwards placed in the great church of Narbonne, whence it was purchased by the regent, on condition of his paying for the repairs of the church; an expence estimated at twenty thousand pounds. It is this picture, the loss of which is so much lamented in the *Catalogue Raisonné* of the Louvre.

These are treasures which England wanted, and Mr. Angerstein merits the highest praise for securing them to the country. Commerce and the arts should flourish together; and we must not forget that to the merchants of Florence, Europe is indebted for their revival.

With respect to the different partnerships of Mr. Angerstein, we have first to mention the firm of Angerstein

gerstein and Dick; secondly, Angerstein and Lewis; thirdly, Angerstein, Lewis, and Warren; fourthly, Angerstein and Warren; the present firm of the house is Angerstein and Rivaz.

To Mr. Warren, his late partner, a very honourable, and, unluckily, a rare instance of goodness attaches. Previously to that gentleman's connexion with Mr. Angerstein, a heavy loss in trade obliged him to stop payment. He found, however, little difficulty in obtaining from his creditors a release after paying them a small dividend. But the bond on his upright principles survived the powers of the law; for in the course of a few years after, in consequence of success in his new engagement, he discharged the duty which those principles required, by the full payment of every demand. He retired from business about four years since, in the sixty-fifth year of his age, enjoying a well-earned competence, together with the rich and pure reflection of a conscience "void of offence." He is, moreover, of a hospitable disposition, and possesses at once social and convivial powers. His only son has been called to the bar, and from the reputation already acquired by him, bids fair to become a distinguished member of his profession.

Mr. Angerstein has been connected with his present partner upwards of four years, and a harmony both friendly and commercial subsists between them.

The fortune of Mr. Angerstein, although economy was never a marked feature in his character, at the same time that he never fell into the opposite extreme, is very ample. He possesses considerable landed property in

in Lincolnshire, to which he is adding as opportunities offer; and the tenantry of the county, no less than the poorer classes, felicitate themselves on every augmentation of his estates, because he is known to be a liberal landlord, and a charitable man. He also enjoys a large share in the new-erected Wet-docks; indeed, there are very few public funds in which his name does not stand annexed to considerable sums. And yet we cannot but repeat, with high satisfaction, that this large property is not accumulated for the narrow pride of self-love, displayed in useless magnificence, or perverted for the gratification of the still worse passion of avarice; for he feels no stronger joy than that of enlarging his benevolence with the means of giving it a wider effect.

It cannot be a matter of surprize that a character like the one above described should engage the attention of the great, the wise, and the good of all denominations.

Of those accustomed to visit Mr. Angerstein some are accounted the first personages in the kingdom. It is observable that among these, as among others of equal excellence, although of inferior splendour, he preserves a just and manly independence of spirit, and dignity of manners, without yielding to imposing distinctions and dazzling pre-eminence. To be firm amongst the great, yet not proud or supercilious with the humble, is the stamp of a truly noble nature. Hence we cannot wonder that he has enjoyed, in an eminent degree, the society of the first characters of the age, whether remarkable for superiority of condition,

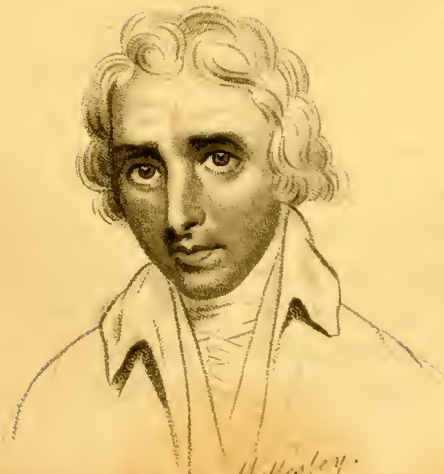
tion, or lustre of talents. Sir Joshua Reynolds, Dr. Johnson, Mr. Garrick, Jonas Hanway, and various other names were on the list of his friendships. It ought not to be omitted that he loves every liberal art, and honours every artist.

Hence too we find his town-house and his villa the resort of the fairest and best of whatever this country has to display, in taste, science, and worth, at the present day. He is accordingly distinguished by persons of the highest rank and consideration, and unites the man of fashion and business, without deviating from the solid value of a sterling character, or sacrificing one to the other.

In respect to his domestic concerns, it may not be unnecessary to remark, that Mr. Angerstein has been twice married. His first wife was the widow of Charles Crokatt, Esq., who had been left with two sons and two daughters. It is not a little honourable to his feelings that the affections of this gentleman were evenly divided between those children and his own proceeding from his union with their mother, who was in herself extremely amiable. The fruit of Mr. Angerstein's marriage with this lady was one son and one daughter. The former was upon his travels for some years, and on his return was brought into parliament for Camelford. His unmarried daughter is distinguished by many graces, talents, and attainments, and equally estimable for those benevolent qualities which form so eminent a feature in the character of her father. She is amongst the first of those beings who constitute the pride and virtuous dignity of the female youth of the country.

His

Major Rennell.



The Marquis Wellesley.

His second wife, a beautiful and amiable young lady, is the daughter of William Lock, Esq. of Norbury-park, by whom he has also two children.

Mr. Angerstein's summer residence is called Woodlands, and is delightfully situated on Blackheath. Were it not contrary to our usual mode, to allow much time or space to local description, we could expatiate at large, and with delighted imagination, on the various scenery of this charming place. A brief and faithful account, so far as it goes, will be found in the note.*

Any description would afford but a very faint image of a spot which exhibits, within a few miles distance from the metropolis, as many rural graces as can be found in the deepest recesses of the country. The grounds display that engaging irregularity which discovers a harmony both in art and nature, that produces the happiest effect; and the conservatory, in particular, has a claim upon our admiration, as well from the magnificent yet simple construction of the building, as from the delicacy, richness, and variety of the plants which adorn the interior.

The writer of this article has been informed that the proprietor of these enchanting pleasure-grounds, and their accompaniments, was fortunate enough to

* The house is faced with a beautiful stucco: the front, which has a handsome portico, is enriched by a niche on each side, containing elegant statues representing the young Apollo and the dancing Fawn. Immediately over each is a circular basso-relievo, with a semi-circular window in the centre. The gardens communicate with a paddock, and command the beautiful prospect of Westcomb-park, Shooter's-hill, and the Thames.

engage one of the first gardeners in England, one calculated rather to cherish than thwart the good taste of his employer; but it has rarely happened that a practical gardener possesses such a fund of good sense, as well as good taste, as George Stewart, while to these is subjoined much real science, and a knowledge of whatever has been written or achieved in his art.

It would not be proper to omit, that in the collection at Woodlands, together with many other fine paintings, are to be found the well-known picture of Garrick between Tragedy and Comedy, drawn by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and one of his most brilliant later works, the Nymph and Boy.

The person of Mr. Angerstein is manly, noble, and commanding; his manners are easy, unaffected, and so calculated as to invite respect and confidence; his address is simple, but highly prepossessing; his conversation is manly and ingenuous, without any mixture of disagreeable levity on one hand, or assumed gravity on the other; his countenance, in particular, is marked by those traits of beneficence which are reflected from his mind, and there is that singleness of integrity in his whole demeanour, which corresponds with the rectitude of his private and public life.

It would have been a solecism in feeling for a character so distinguished, to pass unnoticed by those whose ministry it is to

"Catch the manners living as they rise,"

and exhibit examples of virtue to the public view. Mr. Angerstein has enjoyed his full share of just applause

plause on many great and interesting occasions; and his name stands recorded and reverenced in the annals of public as well as private celebrity. We have seen more than one well-earned tribute to his worth; nor have the Muses been unmindful of their friend. An ingenious work, some years since, came forth under his auspices; and to Mr. Angerstein the English Gleaner has recently addressed the volume which brings his work to a conclusion.

The author thus justifies the selection of his patron:

"A trait of a very important kind (says Mr. Pratt) is still wanting in a sketch of the national picture, I mean, sir, an English merchant. The august empire, whose mental likeness I have attempted, offers a rich and ample choice on this occasion; though that feature must combine the purest commercial integrity with the most extensive active benevolence.

"In this union of great and good qualities, I have but to mention the name of Mr. Angerstein, to be universally justified in my choice. That gentleman's public acts of bounty stand upon record; and he is pre-eminent as a benefactor to the noblest, tenderest, and best of those charities which are among the prime national objects I have endeavoured to describe; and of his private beneficence, instances have, I am assured, their faithful registers in numberless hearts, which his philanthropy has relieved from want, from sorrow, and from various misfortune.

"More than one example of this, sir, has come within my own observation, and should the favour which has been shewn by the public to the former parts of this work, be extended to the present volume, very many of my readers will silently, yet glowingly, feel the truth and the force of this assertion.

"And surely, sir, never has there been a moment at which the public and private virtues of the English merchant had more occasion to exert all the energies of that exalted character.

"The country has been insulted. The lives and property of Englishmen are insolently menaced: inevitable burthens must

again be laid upon industry, ingenuity, and labour, with a heavy hand; and a daring infatuated enemy is on the watch. The poor and the rich, in all their classes and gradations must feel the weight of a *new war*, that has blasted all the promised joys of peace, even in their first fruits. These, and innumerable evils in their train, lay claim to all the powers that constitute the mind and character of an affluent English merchant, and all these powers will be exerted by Mr. Angerstein; who to the more essential qualities of a great and good man, superadds a love of the fine arts, and encourages the talents which produce them: and who, when the insatiable hand of an universal plunderer would have appropriated every foreign repository, secured to this country a domestic treasure, in those great works, the study of which, is so necessary to the rising art.

"For all these public and private reasons; for possessing with great power a yet greater inclination to do good; and for thus forming in his own mind and character several prominent features in that of his country; it is with equal pride and pleasure this last portion of "Gleanings in England," is now offered to the patronage of Mr. Angerstein."

With equal pride and pleasure, on the basis of like motives, we enrol the name of Mr. Angerstein in the honourable list of our PUBLIC CHARACTERS.

MR. HENRY JAMES PYE,

POET-LAUREAT.

THE family of Mr. Pye came into England with the Conqueror, and settled at a place called the Meerd, in Herefordshire. His great great-grandfather was auditor of the exchequer to James I. and by virtue of that office, paid the salary of the Poet-laureat, as appears from the subseqoent verses of Ben Jonson:

Father John Burges,
Necessity urges,

My

My mournful cry
To Sir Robert Pye;
And that he would venture,
To send my debenture.
Tell him, his Ben,
Knew the time when
He loved the Muses,
Tho' now he refuses,
To take apprehension
Of a year's pension.

His son, Sir Robert Pye, a knight also, married Anne, the eldest daughter of John Hambden, the patriot, of whom our author is consequently the representative as much as can be by the female line.

Although we are confident Mr. Pye is fully aware of the pride and folly of ancestry, yet of *such* an ancestor as the latter, it is almost permitted to be proud. And in respect to the former, it is not a little singular, that the auditor's great grandson should be one of the successors to the laurel.

The last male heir left the estate in Herefordshire and the name to the Trevors, descended from the second daughter; but Sir Robert Pye purchased Farringdon in Berkshire, which county he twice represented in Parliament. Our author's father, who occasionally resided there, was elected no less than five times, without opposition, for the same county; the poet himself was, however, born in London, in the memorable year 1745. He was educated at home under a private tutor, until he had attained the age of seventeen, when he entered a gentleman commoner of Magdalen College Oxford, where he continued four years, and had the honorary degree of master of

arts conferred on him; at the installation of Lord North, in 1772, he was also created doctor of laws. His father died within ten days after he came of age, and Mr. Pye married the same year and lived chiefly in the country, making only occasional visits for a few weeks to London, dividing his time between his studies, the duties of a magistrate, and the diversions of the field, of which he was remarkably fond.

It should be noted also, that Mr. Pye obtained a company in the Berkshire militia, which kept him at home on military duty, for a month in each year in time of peace; and during the American war he was summoned to reside in camps through the summer, and quarters in the winter. On the cessation of hostilities, he resigned his commission, and returned to live with the Muses whom he loved, and a family yet more dear. In 1784 it was his fortune to be chosen member for Berkshire, but the numberless expences attending such a situation, and the contest to obtain it, reduced him to the harsh yet necessary measure of selling his paternal estate. He has, however, with his usual candour been heard to say, he had been somewhat imprudent and neglectful of his affairs; the generous error of too many of the cultivators of the laurel; but no extravagance of gaming or any other fashionable vice, is imputable to him. His faults were those of a liberal heart; such as we at once love and bewail. His failings are at once described and excused by a contemporary poet, for Mr. Pratt observes, in his poem of "Sympathy:"

"Some venial faults like clouds at peep of day,
Blush as they pass, and but a moment stay,

Those

Those venial faults from sordid nature start,
And only spring up in the generous heart,
As florid weeds elude the lab'rer's toil
From too much warmth and richness of the soil,
While meaner souls like Zembla's hills of snow,
Too barren prove for weeds or flowers to grow."

Our author has often said, he could never repent marrying for affection rather than money, or for having involved himself early in life by liquidating all his father's debts, amounting to near twenty thousand pounds. It ought not to be omitted here, that he was not under any legal obligation to have paid one farthing; but the ties upon principle supersede those of the human code in every generous mind!

In 1790 Mr. Pye was appointed to succeed his ingenious and worthy friend Tom Warton, as poet-laureat; and in 1792 he was nominated one of the magistrates under the police-act; in both of which official situations he has conducted himself with honour and ability.

From his earliest days our author was devoted to reading. When he was about ten years old, his father put Pope's Homer into his hand; the rapture which he received from this exquisite paraphrase of the Grecian bard was never to be forgotten, and it completely fixed him a *rhymer for life*, as he has pleasantly expressed it. To this early love of reading Mr. Pye is indebted for the various learning he now possesses. His tutor, although an excellent Latinist, and a strict grammarian, is reported to have possessed no tincture of taste whatever, and to have known little or nothing of Greek. Luckily for our youthful bard, his fond-

ness for poetry was not accompanied by an attachment to the common trash of novels; his leisure hours were occupied with history, geography, and general literature. His tutor continued to teach him the Westminster Greek grammar, and conducted him through the Greek Testament. The year preceding this he went to Oxford, and is known to have expressed his fears lest he should appear deficient in Greek; to obviate which, he persuaded a person well versed in that language to assist him in his studies, and with him the subject of these memoirs went through Homer, and part of Xenophon, with public credit and private satisfaction.

At Magdalen College he was under the care of Dr. Richard Scroup; but having no home at the university, and finding no pleasure in hunting on raw-boned Oxford hacks, he made acquaintance with the Parnassian steed, and passed the whole of his time between study and conviviality. As there were about that period no prizes for public exercises, it was not easy for a student to distinguish himself; but it is reported that a little irregularity in college having occasioned an order to compose a poem, in English verse, by way of punishment, this effort of his muse was received so favourably, that he obtained more credit for it in the university, than in his own opinion it merited.

Before he married, it should be noted that Mr. Pye made a short excursion to the continent, and visited Paris, Brussels, the Hague, and Amsterdam, in their original unrepublican situations.

During

During his residence in the country he divided his time, as already mentioned, in the cultivation of his excellent talents. He still indefatigably pursued the Greek language, reading closely, accounting for every word, and never giving up a difficulty until he had explained it (or what he did not very easily do, persuaded himself it was unexplorable). Not content with these accomplishments, he also acquired a knowledge of Italian and Spanish, obtained a notion of Hebrew, and also some acquaintance with Arabic.

He had gone through Stone's Euclid with his tutor at Oxford, but never seemed to enter with any zeal into mathematics. The winter was his chief time of study, and nothing but his love of the field sports at that season could have drawn him from his library. Therefore to those *barbarous sports*, as they are sometimes called by his brother poets, he perhaps owes his health, if not his life. He has been often employed alternately during a winter, one day studying very closely, while on the next he has rode ten miles before daybreak to draw a fox-cover; for fox-hunting was not then, as now, an afternoon's diversion. In the summer he was always in the open air, and enjoyed an agreeable leisure, so sweet and so enchanting to the studious.

Mr. Pye possesses the most easy manners and address, being entirely devoid of the least affectation; there is nothing, indeed, more disliked by him than literary pomposity. He is fond, however, of literary conversation with his literary friends, but it is a subject he never forces in mixed company. From his situation

situation as a country gentleman, and a county representative, he has been accustomed to a variety of company, and he has been constantly esteemed for his own conviviality; as that conviviality is always natural, his conversation is at once gay, glowing, and spontaneous; and, perhaps, he himself often inwardly laughed at those refined gentlemen who have pitied his presumed sufferings during an election dinner, or a fox-hunters club. The only society which calls forth his indignation, is that of the tribe of moral philosophers of the French school.

Mr. Pye has given to the public, who have duly appreciated them, many compositions, both in prose and verse, even before he went to the university. The first piece to which he put his name was a collection of elegies.

The following is, we believe, a correct list of our author's publications, following the order of succession in which they appeared.

1. Elegies.
2. The Triumph of Fashion.
3. Farringdon Hill; a charming production.
4. Six Olympic Odes of Pindar.
5. Progress of Refinement; which has been deemed excellent.
6. Shooting.
7. Two octavo volumes of Poems, comprising the following subjects:—Amusement—Siege of Meaux, a tragedy—Naucratia, a poem—Elegies of Tyrtæus—Adelaide, a tragedy, acted at Drury-lane—A volume of Sketches, on various subjects—The Inquisitor, a tragedy; written in conjunction with James Petite Andrews, Esq. never acted—Translation of Xenophon's Defence of the Athenian Democracy; with notes—Alfred, an epic poem—And Poems written in the vicinity of Stoke-park, in 1801. Printed for Corbet and Mayer.

Our

Our author is also reported to possess a complete translation of Pindar, those few odes excepted which have been translated by West. He is said to have kept these performances by him more than double the time prescribed by Horace.

All these exhibit more or less of real genius, taste, and learning; and there is a spirit of goodness, as well as of good writing, which pervades the whole. In a word, Mr. Pye is at once an able writer, and an amiable man; nor has the laurel at any time bound the temples of a more genuine votary of the muses, or of a more worthy member of the community.

Before we conclude this article, it may not be unacceptable to say something respecting one of the public situations occupied by Mr. Pye.

The office of Poet-laureat is said to have been first conferred by the Cæsars of Germany, perpetuated by custom or by vanity in the English court, and bestowed at different times, on the various and unequal merits of a Gower, a Skelton, a Dryden, a Cibber, a Whitehead, and a Warton. From Augustus to George III. the muse has too often been flattering and venal; but it will be difficult to produce in any age or country, a similar establishment of a stipendiary poet, who is bound to furnish twice a year a measure of praise and verse, such as may be sung in the presence of the Sovereign and his court. It is fortunate when truth sanctions the happiest effusions of the muse, as she does in the present reign.

The Delphic-laurel, in the mythology of the Greeks, consecrated to Apollo, and celebrated by the enthusiastic

enthusiastic imagination of poets, and the garland of oak-leaves distributed to victors in the Roman Capitoline games, probably first suggested a literary distinction, which with some variation of ceremonies, was continued to the reign of Theodosius, who abolished it as a remnant of pagan superstition.

After ages of desolation and barbarism, when few could write, and still fewer enjoy, the pleasures of good writing, this title, on due consideration, was renewed with considerable splendour, in the tender and accomplished Petrarch, whose name, though his works have been consigned to oblivion by certain modern critics, has a strong and just claim to gratitude and praise, for reviving, by precept, as well as example, the spirit and studies of the age of Augustus.

The distinction of Poet-laureat, which Petrarch deserved and enjoyed, was conferred on Philelphus, a satirical, generous, but distressed poet of the fifteenth century, whose decades and prose epistles are not without entertaining anecdotes of his times. It next devolved on Tasso, who took refuge from calamity under the patronage of Cardinal Alobrandini; then on Quezno the buffoon of Leo X. and on Æneas Sylvius Piccolomini. Pope Pius III. on being presented with a panegyric in verse by a poet who expected pecuniary recompence, gave him the following impromptu:

"Pro numeris numeros vobis Sperate Poetæ
Mutare est animus carmina, non emere."

To which the writer, with great spirit, and perhaps with no less justice, replied:

"Si

"Si tibi pro numeris numeros fortuna dedisset
Non esset capiti tanta corona tuo."

The succession of English poets to the laurel is accurately stated in the following list:

1. John Skelton, by some called, but believed not to have been, Poet-laureat, died in 1529.
2. Edmund Spenser. However, see Malone's Dryden's Life, vol. I. Spenser died in 1598-9.
3. Sam. Daniel, P. L. 1598-9. Died in 1619, aged 57.
4. Ben Jonson, P. L. 1619. Died in 1637, aged 63.
5. Sir W. Davenant, P. L. 1637. Died in 1668, aged 63.
6. John Dryden, P. L. 1668, dismissed, as being a papist, in 1688.
7. T. Shadwell, P. L. 1688. Died in 1692, aged 52.
8. Nahum Tate, P. L. 1692. Died in 1715.
9. N. Rowe, P. L. 1716. Died in Dec. 1718, aged 45.
10. L. Eusden, P. L. 1718. Died in Sept. 1730.
11. C. Cibber, P. L. 1730. Died in 1757, aged 87.
12. W. Whitehead, P. L. 1757. Died in April 1785.
13. T. Warton, P. L. 1785. Died in May 1790. And
14. H. J. Pye, P. L. 1790, who, though last, is certainly not least in the estimation of the Muses.

EARL OF WESTMORELAND.

JOHN FANE, Earl of Westmoreland, was born in the year 1759. The family of Fane, or as it is written in the ancient records, Vane, is of Welsh origin, and if credit may be given to ancient documents, existed there in considerable splendour at the period of the Conquest.

It was not, however, much known in England until the reign of James I. It must be well remembered that this prince, coming from the throne of Scotland to

to that of England, and having to reward the zeal of those of the English nobility who had supported his interest, was compelled to exert his prerogative in the liberal distribution of honours, and thus pay that debt in titles, to which his treasury was insufficient. It was at this period that the family of Fane was ennobled and became Earls of Westmoreland. It is only, however, by the collateral line that these honours have descended upon the present peer. It is mentioned in the annals of those times, that the grandfather of this nobleman, Francis Fane, Esq. had no small difficulty to prove his descent; but this has been lately denied, and it is not within the scope of our intentions to controvert it.

By the premature death of his father, in the year 1774, the present earl arrived early at the honours of his house, being at this period in his fifteenth year. The care of his youth, and his education, devolved upon his mother, and fortunately for the young nobleman, no one was better suited to the proper discharge of such an office. She was one of those women who being equally averse to the dissipation of fashionable life, and the busy idleness of a court, considered her family as her proper sphere, and descending even into the minute detail of domestic management, thought nothing mean, the end of which was honourable. Among those who, being of a different taste, knew not how to value this species of virtue, she exposed herself to much ridicule, and was actually satirized in a poem, attributed to Sir Hanbury Williams, under the ludicrous name of Lady Catherine Candle-snuff.

The

The Earl of Westmoreland, like most of the illustrious men of his age, received his education at a public school. Upon the death of his father he was sent by his mother to the Charter-house, an institution which, if less splendid than those of Westminster, Winchester, and Eton, still possesses every advantage of a public school, and therefore well merits to be considered as such. It was here that his mind was so well formed for the future destination of his life; it was here that he imbibed those sound principles of religion and government, and that orthodoxy, the support of church and state, which are the almost invariable consequences of a public education. It was here also, that he contracted a contempt for the philosophers of the day; and was formed to that generous ardour and enthusiasm against their fatal principles, which in the general moderation of his character, must be considered as a proof of no ordinary hatred.

While residing in the Charter-house, the young earl obtained much celebrity by his early proficiency. It is well known that in this, as in all other public schools, and in public schools alone, the genius of the boys is much cultivated by original composition, and that the most favourite species of this composition is Latin verse. The young peer gained great reputation in these weekly exercises, and added to this facility of Latin versification, what is usually too much neglected, an equal elegance and strength of prose. Indeed, if we may give credit to his contemporaries, the genius of this nobleman for these scholastic exercises, could only be exceeded by his unremitting industry,

and

and ardour of application. No one even of those who contemplated their learning as the means of their future advancement, was either longer, more early, or with less frequent intervals, intent upon study, and had not the occupations of his future life withdrawn him from this course, we believe that few would have prosecuted it with more success. It is not often that even moderate genius, united with such unrelaxing industry, fails of its proposed end.

Like other young men of ample fortune, the Earl of Westmoreland, while at the Charter-house, was allowed the privilege of a private tutor: this gentleman, in his school vacations, attended him to his home, and assisted him even in those intervals in his literary pursuits. The earl is accustomed at this day to mention his name with grateful respect, and to impute to him that constancy of principle, both in morals and politics, which in the midst of fashionable levities has never been eradicated.

From the Charter-house our young nobleman was removed to the university, whither he carried a stock of classical learning, and a knowledge of books, which was exceeded by none of his contemporaries. To this, however, was added its usual concomitant, an ignorance of the world, and thus a facility of receiving impressions of any stamp and colour, which chance might throw in his way.

The public candour will accept of this as some excuse for the early levities of this nobleman. Independent, and possessed of an ample fortune, emancipated from the severe restraint of a school to the comparative

comparative licence of a college, it is no reasonable subject of surprize that he should somewhat abuse his new liberty, and offend the seniors of his university. In the varieties of human character nothing is more common than to see men, in different stages of their life, of very different manners, and wholly unlike their former selves. From the dissipation of the youth of Bolingbroke, who would have expected the philosophy of his maturer years? From the strict severity, the rigid attention to study, of the early life of the Earl of Westmoreland, no one would have augured the levity of some portion of his subsequent conduct. But it appears a part of this nobleman's character to do every thing with that disposition of mind which the Italian proverb expresses, by "*con amore fa ce che fai.*" Whether pleasure or business, whether study or dissipation, has been the object of his pursuit, he has pursued each in its turn with equal alacrity, and in turn wearied with the one, exchanged it for the other.

It was in one of his tours to a watering-place, soon after this period, that he met the celebrated Miss Child, the daughter and heiress of Robert Child, Esq. reputed the most opulent banker of the city. This young lady had been intended by her mother, the late Lady Ducie, for a suitor of equal rank, and greater wealth, than the Earl of Westmoreland, and the affair was considered in a happy progress towards its desired conclusion, when the nobleman in question obtained an introduction into the family to whose temporary care Miss Child was committed.

It is almost needless to relate the result; for it is well known that the Earl was successful, and that the affair terminated in an expedition to the north.*

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* As this feat established his lordship's character in the world of gallantry, we here subjoin the particulars from one of the periodical productions of that day. "Early on the morning of yesterday (*i. e.* Friday May 17, 1782,) as a gentleman was returning from a route in the neighbourhood of Berkley-square, his attention was caught by a post-chaise and four horses stationed, as if in waiting, on Hay-hill. This circumstance, together with the unseasonableness of the hour, about two o'clock in the morning, excited his curiosity, and stopping his own coach, he commanded his coachman to enquire of one of the postillions who was going out of town? The coachman obeyed, but received no other answer than a menace, unless he drove on. The gentleman's suspicions, that something more than ordinary was intended, were now confirmed, and he resolved to watch them. As if satisfied with the answer of the postillion he ordered his coachman to proceed, but had no sooner gained the opposite side of Berkley-square, than leaving his coach he took a station suited to his purpose of watching the post-chaise. He had been here but a short time when he saw the door of the house belonging to Mr. Child the banker open, and two women, in evident hurry and alarm, come forth. They were immediately received by a man muffled up in a great coat, and hurried by him across the square towards the post-chaise on Hay-hill. The gentleman hastened to the house, and gave the alarm, the family arose, and search was made, and it was found that the celebrated heiress, Miss Child, had left the house accompanied by her favourite maid.

"Notwithstanding the unseasonableness of the hour, a pursuit was immediately commenced, in which Mrs. Child, the mother of the young lady, was so eager, that she is said to have outstripped every other. We are informed that the pursuit was continued until the fourth stage, where the young fugitives had so well anticipated every thing, that the suite of Mr. Child could procure no horses. At Baldock, one of the towns upon the northern road, one of the servants

During the short period of existence which the young countess was destined to experience, his lordship treated her with that tenderness and affection to which her virtues had so just a claim, and in her periods of ill health, which were unfortunately too frequent, abstracting himself from all pleasurable pursuits, he endeavoured to support her by his constant attention and unremitting assiduity. This lady, however, died in 1793, leaving his lordship four sons and three daughters. The eldest of these, Lord Burghersh, is heir to the title and estates.

His lordship took his seat in parliament with unusual reputation, and succeeded in his efforts to answer the public expectation. His style of oratory is indeed somewhat too dry, and his elocution would have more effect, if his manners had more earnestness. He appears to be more anxious to convince than to persuade, and of late years, seems to have taken the resolution of terminating his politi-

servants of Mr. Child, however, came up with the fugitives, when a person belonging to the latter rode up, and to prevent his further progress, shot his horse under him.

"Mr. Child and suite have returned to town, and are employed, it is said, in mutual consolation. The Marquis of G——, and Lord H——, it is added, are still more in need of it, and more particularly the former, whose addresses were seconded by Mrs. Child.

"Miss Child, the night of her elopement, slept with her governess, but had contrived to charm the dragon into an unusual sleep. It is but justice to observe, that though the family are not pleased with the old lady's vigilance, they make no complaint of her fidelity. We have only to add, that the Earl of Westmoreland is the Lothario who has carried off this fair Calista."

cal efforts. He contents himself with giving a silent vote; but as he has ever been a staunch adherent to the party somewhat invidiously called the *Alarmists*, this vote was always in the affirmative during Mr. Pitt's administration.

In the year 1789 his lordship was appointed to the lieutenancy of Ireland. That kingdom was at this period in a state which rendered the proper discharge of so high an office, an affair of equal difficulty and danger. It was divided, as it has ever been, between the two parties, of the catholics or aborigines as they term themselves, and the protestants or English settlers. The latter are exceeded by the former in the proportion of nearly seven to one, the population of Ireland being about four millions, and three millions seven hundred thousand of the whole being catholics. Confident in their numbers, and considering the civil restraints upon them as the most gross injustice, the members of the church of Rome clamorously demanded the abolition of the exclusive privileges of the protestants, published remonstrance upon remonstrance, and almost in the tone of rebellion, urged the favourite doctrine of emancipation. The Earl of Westmoreland, according to instructions from England, and in pursuance of what he considered as just policy, opposed these demands, and, assisted by the powerful party of the Beresfords, was enabled for a time to maintain his ground. But the popular prejudice of the natives of Ireland attained, at length, such strength, and became so clamorous, that it was found necessary to recall his lordship

Whatever

Whatever may be thought of his political opinions during this period, it must be confessed that he supported them with uncommon vigour and undaunted resolution. He had the dignity indeed to pass over, in merited contempt, the numerous libels against his person and government; a conduct for which he merits the more praise, as he was never suspected of any want of natural resolution.

Upon his return to England, as a proof that he had not been recalled through any failure of royal or ministerial favour, he was appointed to the splendid situation of master of the horse. He has been since nominated lord-keeper of the privy-seal; an office the duty of which consists in the inspection of all charters, &c. before they receive the confirmation of the great-seal.

His first countess, having died as above mentioned in 1798, his lordship has since married a second wife,* by whom he has two children living.

The private character of his lordship may, without difficulty, be collected from what we have already related of his public life. The Earl of Westmoreland is, in truth, one of the most singular men of his age; the unyielding gravity of his deportment and general manners, forming a singular contrast with the supposed levity of some part of his conduct. During his residence in Ireland as lord-lieutenant, he appeared a courtier worthy of the age and court of Louis XIV. Gallantry and business were pursued with

* This lady was formerly Miss Saunders nearly related to Sir Charles Saunders, the celebrated admiral.

equal zeal, and almost at the same moment. He visited the council and the ball-room in the same dress, and, according to the maxim of Chesterfield, divided himself so equally between his duties and his pleasures, that he satisfied the calls of each. His lordship has as yet scarcely reached the middle period of life. His person is not without elegance, though his countenance is thought by some to possess rather too much severity. But this is the more easily overlooked, as it exists no where else. T. L. H.

THE MARQUIS OF WELLESLEY,

GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF BENGAL, &c.

IT is the peculiar and happy nature of our popular constitution, that by presenting emolument and honours as the certain rewards of those abilities which are required for the purposes of its administration, political exertions are at the same time stimulated and repaid. By the power of an over-ruling majority, a minister may indeed carry his most obnoxious measures; but although he can thus govern the house, the nation is still independent. The voice of a people, even if not reflected by an house of commons, is not usually dissipated in idle complaint; the sense of insulted rights inspires such rude murmurs of discontent as, if not speedily appeased, may become dangerous. The firmest foundation, therefore, of every government, the surest support of every minister—public confidence—is beyond the reach of corrupt influence, and, fortunately for the liberties of all, is absolutely

solutely necessary for his own security. It becomes essential, therefore, to cultivate popular esteem; the powers of eloquence are thus required; and talents may rest assured both of honours and office, when they are thus exercised in the public service.

It is these causes which have raised the Marquis of Wellesley from comparative obscurity to his present eminence. But we have only to examine the life of this nobleman to acknowledge that he has well merited all his honours, and that he is one of those public characters of our own times whose titles are but the stamp of their worth; the royal mark and state-certificate that the metal has been assayed, and answers to the standard.

The family of this nobleman is among the most ancient of the kingdom; and, if we may credit the account of the genealogists, the splendour and glory of its first founders were such, that no small weight of dishonour would attach to the present representative, if he did not in his own person reflect back upon them something of that lustre which they have thrown upon him. The name of the family was originally Colley; it derives its origin from the county of Rutland, whence it removed into Ireland during the reign of Henry VIII. Richard Colley, Esq. of the county of Meath, the grandfather of the Marquis of Wellesley, took the name of Wesley, in compliance with the will of his brother-in-law, Garret Wesley, Esq. of the same county. This latter having married the sister of the former, and dying without issue, bequeathed his estates upon this condition. Richard Colley, now Wesley,

was soon after ennobled by a peerage, being created Baron Mornington, of the kingdom of Ireland. He died in 1760, and was succeeded by his son, the father of the Marquis, who was advanced to an earldom in the year 1760, being created Earl of Mornington.

Richard Wesley, the subject of our present memoir, the first marquis, second earl, and third baron of his family, was born in the same year (1760), his father having married Anne, eldest daughter of the celebrated Arthur Hill, afterwards Lord Dungannon. To this excellent woman, who was distinguished for her virtues, the rise of the Marquis must chiefly be attributed. The premature death of his father left him and a numerous family to the sole care of this lady, and she was, fortunately for her children, one of those women equally adapted for, and inclined to the faithful execution of so solemn a trust. This indeed was the more difficult, as, by circumstances which it does not belong to us to explain, the original wealth of the family had been so much impaired, that the remnant was but ill sufficient to support the appearance required by their rank. But a wise and liberal œconomy, added to the energies of an active and well-informed mind, supplied equally the deficiencies of fortune, and even the loss of a father. It should ever be recorded to the praise of the Marquis of Wellesley, that though thus by the death of one of his parents become independent, and this too at an age when the passions are not under the best government, he not only concurred in all things with his mother, but, in the full persuasion of her ability and superior excellence,

lence, voluntarily threw up all management of the family estates into her hands, and submitted cheerfully to whatever restraints she was pleased to impose.

It is the advice of the Roman philosopher, that we should chuse, upon our first entrance into life, a certain path, and fix our eyes upon a point to which, as to its gaol, our whole course and efforts ought invariably to be directed. The father of the Marquis of Wellesley had been of this opinion, and accordingly resolved to devote his son from his earliest youth to public life. The wishes of the one, and propensities of the other, happily concentrated in the same point. History and finance, therefore, early became the favourite studies of Mr. Wesley, and his proficiency in them was such as might be expected from the zeal of his application.

He had no sooner reached his fourteenth year, a period when a reason naturally forward might begin to unfold its bud, and give some promise, at least to the eye of parental prejudice, of the richness of its future blossom, than, as the first means of his future rise, he was sent to Eton. A public school, indeed, by those who have enjoyed, and are therefore alone capable of estimating its advantages, will be with one voice acknowledged as the only adequate preparation for an early introduction into public life. It is upon this stage alone that the mind can be trained to that early firmness, and manly confidence, which, though they may constitute no part of talent, are yet necessary to its exercise and effect.

There was at this time at Eton a singular amuse-

ment,

ment, and which prevailed more generally, as it was encouraged by the masters, for the purpose of improving them in elocution. Upon the evenings of their holidays, the boys of the several houses met in a common hall, and one of them taking his seat as speaker, another as minister, and a third as leader of an opposition, the parties of each being ranged by their side, formed a mimic house of commons, and moved, debated, voted, and resolved according to the usual formalities. Ludicrous as this may appear, it is to this, perhaps, we are indebted for some of the most eminent of our parliamentary speakers. With the exception of Mr. Grey, none was more eminent in this mimic house than Mr. Wesley. He is said, indeed, to have preserved his office of premier longer than any of his rivals; no inconsiderable proof of early talent!

From Eton Mr. Wesley was removed to Cambridge, but remained there but a short time, being called into more active life by the death of his father.

He now distinguished himself in such a manner, as to become an object of attention and favour on the part of administration. At the institution of the order of St. Patrick, he was nominated a knight of that illustrious body, and soon afterwards a member of the Irish privy-council. His increasing celebrity induced the ministry to call him to a still more splendid stage, and they procured him to be elected member for Windsor.

It was during his representation of this town that he gained that high and immediate favour with his Sovereign, which continues to him to the present time.

Though

Though in no office about the court, to which the privilege of access to the presence was attached, he was almost daily of the private parties of the royal family, and is thought to have excited no slight jealousy by the frequency of this envied distinction.

His speeches, his ardent hatred, his passionate declamation against the French revolution, are said to have been of no inconsiderable service to him in his progress to the royal favour; and it must be confessed, that as they argued a rooted abhorrence to that obnoxious system, and a no less firm loyalty and steady attachment to our own constitution, they merited, as their due reward, a distinguished attention.

During the greater part of the late war the Earl of Mornington continued to render himself remarkable by the same political ardour against the French revolution; and if we may sometimes lament the indiscriminate fury of the attack, we must more frequently acknowledge his eloquence and thorough acquaintance with his subject. The royal patron now resolved to complete his work, for considering his fortune as equally beneath his merit and his rank, he resolved to repair it by the magnificent appointment of governor-general of India.

Nor had he been long in this station before he was called upon to act an eminent part. One of the objects of the French in their expedition to Egypt was the future attack of our Indian empire. Having made good their landing, and, after some interval, established themselves at Cairo, their commander prepared for the attainment of the main end of the expedition.

An

An envoy was accordingly dispatched to the Mysore, and a secret alliance concluded between the French commander and Tippoo. Nothing now was necessary but to commence the execution of their purpose, yet nothing could be effected till the straits of Babelmandel, the only passage by which the French could reach India through Egypt, had been secured.

It is a remark of the great classic biographer of antiquity, that the abilities of a statesman, or military commander, are best shewn in what are considered as things of little importance. The Earl of Mornington had not been an inattentive observer of this correspondence between Tippoo Saib and the army of Egypt. Having penetrated into the manner in which they had resolved to effect their designs, with that promptitude of genius which has ever distinguished him, he was not long in discovering the most effectual means of counteraction.

The Red Sea and the narrow straits of Babelmandel communicate with each other through the gulf of Cambay. In the middle of this entrance is situated the island of Perim: it is a low rocky substance, about nine miles in length and four in breadth. The channel which divides it from the African coast, though nearly as wide as that between Dover and Calais, is but little frequented, on account of the numerous rocks and shoals which obstruct its navigation; but should any vessels make the attempt, it is necessary for them to steer close under the western point of the island. The extreme breadth of the opposite channel is less than seven miles; this space is not navigable,

nor

nor is the water deep enough at any place at so great a distance from the island as to be out of the reach of any batteries raised there. The soil, moreover, is very convenient for any artificial fortifications; so that whichever of the armed powers should first obtain possession of Perim, it might be enabled to defend the passage against the greatest superiority of force.

The Earl of Mornington readily perceived the great advantages of this situation, in order to oppose the further progress of the army of Egypt. Orders therefore were immediately issued to the naval commander in chief in the Indian seas, to detach such a force to the straits of Babelmandel as he might judge sufficient for that important service.

The Indian army was at the same time commanded to assemble. This command was obeyed with the same vigour and alacrity with which it was given, and General Harris, with forces fully adequate to the object, advanced against Seringapatam. Such was the confidence with which the promises of Bonaparte had inspired the Sultaun of Mysore, that he rejected all approaches to conciliation made by the governor-general, not only with menace, but with contempt. The city of Seringapatam was therefore invested, and the siege commenced in April 1799. The enterprize, however, now appeared of greater difficulty than what had been first apprehended; the nature of the ground immediately adjacent to the city was such as rendered the works usual in sieges, and supposed necessary to their success, not merely arduous, but impracticable. The ardour of the soldiers, if not of the general

neral himself, had thus subsided into despondency, and the effect of the climate, so powerful in depressing the animal spirits, concurring with other causes, affected them with a desire at least to abandon the attempt.

The Governor-general, however, by his letters, communicated to them a portion of his own vigour, and thus encouraged, they continued the enterprize. It is not to our purpose to exhibit to our readers that information which may be as well collected from the gazettes of the day; we have no other design than that of compleating our picture of the administration and public character of the Marquis. Suffice it to add, therefore, that Seringapatam was carried by storm, and the Sultaun himself discovered among the slain. The body of Tippoo was found, after much search, in the midst of many of his subjects who had fallen around him; his countenance, like that of Cataline, wore in death the characters of those strong passions which had distinguished him whilst living; the same haughtiness, the same defiance, were still legible on his brow. Thus terminated the life of a man to whom his enemies readily allow an unusual strength of character, but with equal justice contend, that it was disgraced by almost every vice which could find place in the bosom of a tyrant. Thus fell the formidable power of Mysore, and thus, we may add, upon its ruin was established more securely the empire of the English in India.

If such was the splendour of what may be called the external policy of the Earl of Mornington, his domestic

domestic administration is not less deserving the notice of biography. Our limits will not admit us to enter into a detailed narrative of what so justly merits attention; it would, however, be something of injustice to pass it over without notice.

The free traders of Asia, and the great body of English merchants, had long and justly complained of the monopoly of the company, and clamorously demanded a participation in the Indian traffic. The ministry had been thus, as it were, compelled to extend the hitherto narrow limits of private trade, and upon the renewal of the company's charter, an article was inserted to that purpose.

Upon the arrival of the Earl of Mornington at his government, it was his first care to provide for the full effect of this privilege. Whether by accident, or that the wording of the article having been left to the directors, they had contrived to insert those vague expressions which might render it wholly nugatory, the earl found that this privilege existed only in the charter, and that by the indirect counteraction of the company and its officers, it had not as yet been realised. The rate of freight, as fixed by the article, and extended by the company, became one of the first subjects of complaint. To this was added, the inconvenience of the goods being previously stored in the warehouses, and the great expence of loading, and landing, which the officers purposely contrived to augment to its most extravagant height. All this the earl endeavoured to correct, and by this means lost much of his influence with the court of directors.

Thus

Thus have we attempted to exhibit a picture of the public life and character of the Marquis of Wellesley. If we take a review of some of the leading traits, such as his foresight into the designs of the French; his intercepting their communication with the Indian powers; his seizing the opportunity of crushing their faithful ally, the Sultaun of Mysore; and lastly, his arduous efforts to ensure the rights of free trade, we shall not hesitate to place him among the first in the list of the most eminent public characters of the day.

This nobleman has now attained the forty-third year of his age: his person is tall and elegant, but his countenance does not exhibit that manly air which, according to the system of Lavater, might be expected from his actions. It is rather pallid, and in its contour evinces something of the man of pleasure and dissipation. The Marquis, however, like many other eminent men, has the praise of giving the lie direct to these traits of his physiognomy, for his character is removed from nothing so far as this fashionable insignificance.

In private life his conduct as a brother and a friend is equally amiable; from a patrimony extremely narrow he contrived to supply no inconsiderable addition to the fortunes of his brothers, and from his earliest youth was ever considered as generous even to imprudence. He of course possesses some of the foibles usually attached to a disposition of his ardent temperament; he is beloved by his domestics, and no one ever possessed greater influence over his Irish tenants. At a period when those of the greater part of the absentees

sentees availed themselves of the distraction of the times to plunder their own farms, drive away their stock, and defraud their landlords of their rents, the Marquis of Wellesley was one of those few, who, like the Earl of Moira, lost nothing in the common calamity, and whose name alone was sufficient to contain his neighbourhood within their allegiance.

This nobleman is one of the most elegant scholars, and pleasing poets, both English and Latin, of the present age. His Latin verses, while at Eton, procured him much celebrity, and he has since written and published among his friends some smaller poems, which, with equal fancy, exhibit more maturity of taste and judgment. During his residence in India he has not neglected the promotion of the arts, but has zealously concurred with the favourite associates of the late Sir William Jones, (the members of the Asiatic Society,) to call forth into light the hidden treasures of oriental learning. The fine arts, architecture in particular, are his favourite pursuits, and a magnificent palace, in the seat of his government, has been the fruit of his taste and superintendence.

T. L. H.

WILLIAM CLEAVER, D. D.

LORD BISHOP OF BANGOR.

THE subject of this memoir is entitled to a place in our publication, as well on account of his conspicuous rank in the church of England, as for a situation of much responsibility and trust which he also occupies

as governor of one of the most respectable colleges in the university of Oxford.

His lordship's ancestors, though persons of inconsiderable fortune and celebrity, were remarkable for a zealous attachment to the established church. His father, a man of good natural talents, and a competent share of acquired learning, was a clergyman, and for several years had the care of a large grammar school at Buckingham. His system of education was not upon the modern plan; but it must be recorded to his credit, that the seminary while under his direction was unusually flourishing, and that it produced many creditable scholars. This worthy divine was tolerably well skilled in the Hebrew tongue, in the rudiments of which he was careful to instruct his son, who, we understand, has since prosecuted the study of it with considerable success: he also took much pains to have him accurately acquainted with the Greek and Latin languages, in which he has also made a most eminent proficiency.

About the year 1766 young Mr. Cleaver was entered at the university of Oxford, where he had not resided long before his superior acquirements recommended him to notice; and he was shortly afterwards elected to the only Buckinghamshire demyship of Magdalen College. In this station he continued for some time, and although it held out to him a certain, but perhaps distant, prospect of a more valuable fellowship than any of those belonging to Brazenose College; nevertheless, upon a vacancy happening among the fellowships of the latter, he chose to offer himself

himself as a candidate, and was fortunate enough to succeed in the attempt.

Having now attained so honourable a situation in the university, in which he had already attracted much notice, and having proceeded to the degree of master of arts, he devoted himself closely to his classical studies for a considerable length of time. His proficiency in polite literature, his acute understanding, regularity of conduct, and affability of deportment, had procured him many valuable and powerful friends; and the period now approached when he was to be appointed to that post upon which his future fortunes might be said to depend. The heir of the illustrious house of Buckingham was then in want of a private tutor, and none was judged more proper for that appointment than Mr. Cleaver; and, indeed, with respect to attainments, no one can entertain a doubt of his being admirably qualified.

Being now invested with this place of trust, he spared no pains to give satisfaction in the discharge of his duty. He attended the present Marquis of Buckingham for several years; and though the Marquis when at the university was entered at Christ Church College, Mr. Cleaver was still suffered to continue his tutor, and to attend him privately as before. That his noble pupil benefited greatly by the instructions received, is a fact universally known; and we cannot wonder that he has proved so abundantly grateful to his instructor. About this time, having intentions probably of entering into the connubial state, he exchanged his fellowship of Brazenose for the living of

Cottingham, in Northamptonshire, in the patronage of the principal and fellows of that society, which he retained not more than three years. Whether he had any other church preferment between the time of his vacating the living of Cottingham, and being appointed to a bishopric, is uncertain. During the time of his holding the rectory of Cottingham, Mr. Cleaver married a Miss Ashton, a lady of many personal accomplishments and good family, by whom he has five children, two sons, the elder of whom is a student of Christ Church, Oxford, and the latter a king's scholar of Westminster school, and three daughters.

Though the Marquis of Buckingham had now no longer occasion for his quondam tutor, yet still a mutual esteem was retained, and an intimate friendship kept up between them. Mr. Cleaver's friends did not doubt that in due time they should see him raised to a station of great eminence; nor have their expectations been disappointed.

Mr. Cleaver had much endeared himself to his fellow-collegians during his long residence in the university; and accordingly, upon a vacancy of the headship of Brazenose College, he was elected principal, though not without some opposition; and in that honourable and lucrative situation he continues to this day. He now proceeded to the degrees of B.D. and D.D. and upon the removal of Dr. Porteus to the see of London, was, through the interest of his patron the marquis, appointed bishop of Chester. In the year 1799, upon the death of Dr. Warren, he was translated to the valuable see of Bangor, in which he will

will probably remain for life. We believe it is through the interest of the same generous patron that his younger brother, Dr. Euseby Cleaver, was some years ago presented to the bishopric of Fernes, in Ireland, in which he has hitherto been stationary. Since his lordship has presided at Brazenose College that society has much increased; and it must in justice be allowed, that the discipline kept up there is far superior to what is to be found in most of the colleges at Oxford; but, notwithstanding his lordship's exertions, we cannot pretend to say that Brazenose has not its share of immorality as well as any of the rest.

As so much of the bishop's time is necessarily taken up in discharging the duties of his situation at Oxford, which is consequently the principal place of his residence, he has not shewn that activity in his diocese which we have reason to suppose he otherwise would; and in a charge delivered to his clergy about four years since, we find him apologizing to them for the same, and assuring them that his frequent infirmities, as well as his other necessary occupations, rather than a want of inclination, had prevented him from paying more attention to their concerns. But, notwithstanding the multiplicity of his vocations elsewhere, it must not be forgotten that he has adopted the most rigorous measures to suppress those clergymen who are called evangelical ministers; and, indeed, with all the good qualities his lordship possesses, we cannot deny that in this respect he is by no means candid. It must not, however, be passed over, that his lordship's charities are extensive, and that he has stood up as

an orthodox defender of the doctrines of the church of England: and to this end he lately published a sermon, preached before the university, in which he highly censured the objections made by the present Bishop of Lincoln to the damnatory clauses in the Athanasian Creed.

His lordship hath also published three excellent sermons on the Lord's Supper, in which he maintains, with great strength of argument, the opinion stated by the learned Dr. Cudworth, and revived by the profound Warburton, that this sacrament is a feast upon a sacrifice. He is besides the author of "Directions to the younger Clergy on the Choice of Books, 8vo.; a Charge delivered to the Clergy of the Diocese of Chester in 1797; a Sermon preached before the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, 1794; a Sermon on the Design and Formation of the Articles of the Church of England," in which he has combated Calvinism with singular ability and success. To the bishop the learned world are indebted for that correctness to be found in the beautiful edition of Homer's Iliad lately printed at Oxford, by the munificence of the Grenville family. X. Z.

DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE magnificent and splendid stile in which this nobleman lives, and the encouragement he gives to the promotion of genius and science, reflect the highest honours upon himself and his country. To call him the liberal patron, the steady patriot, the sincere

cere friend, are but cold descriptive epithets of his merits. His extensive and munificent acts of benevolence to the indigent and the distressed, with his many acts of humanity and hospitality, all contribute to make him one of the first characters in England, if not in Europe. The magnificence of Alnwick, the great baronial seat of the antient Earls of Northumberland; the elegance of Sion-house, which for taste and beauty is scarce to be paralleled in Europe; the stateliness of Northumberland-house, the finished model of a palace for the town residence of a great nobleman, are all kept up with unrivalled splendour, and at the same time with a judicious and well regulated œconomy; grandeur without ostentation, prudence without parsimony, and dignity without meanness. This is the honourable use of a large estate and a princely income. How different is this conduct from that of too many of our young noblemen and gentlemen, who lavish in dissipation, and every species of vice, their hereditary property; and though peers of parliament, become pensioners upon the public. It was once well said, that a sumptuary law was wanting to check this abominable depravity. If the house of lords were obliged to maintain their own paupers, a ruined nobleman would become so disgraceful a character in society, he would be avoided by people of all ranks. Thus contempt might cure what shame cannot effect.

The present Duke was born on the 25th day of August 1742. He was first married, in the month of July 1764, to Lady Anne Stuart, third daughter of

John Earl of Bute, by whom he had no issue; this marriage was dissolved by act of parliament. This marriage has by some persons been ascribed to the influence of the late princess dowager of Wales; for as Lord Bute's eldest daughter had married Sir James Lowther, afterwards Earl of Lonsdale, these two marriages would have united the two great estates of the north in the same family. But the caprice of fortune overturned this project, and gave to his Grace a lady of exemplary virtue and amiable manners.

In the month of May 1779 his Grace married, secondly, Miss Frances Julia Burrell, third daughter of Peter Burrell, Esq. of Beckenham, in Kent; by whom he has Charlotte, born in July 1780, died in May 1781; Elizabeth, born in December 1781; Julia, born in May 1783; Hugh and Agnes, twins, born in April 1785; Henry, born in June 1787, since deceased; Amelia, born in January 1789; Frances, born in September 1791, died in August 1803; and Algernon, born in December 1792. This was truly a marriage of affection, and arose from a circumstance so highly honourable, and so truly interesting, that it cannot be omitted in this place.

In the year 1773 Mr. Burrell, the father of the present Duchess of Northumberland, found that his health was declining very fast, when his physicians earnestly advised him to go to Spa, in Germany, for the recovery of it. His daughters fearing that those who had only mercenary motives would not pay him all that attention, and take so much care of him, as he might expect from those who from duty and affection

tion united, would feel the greatest pleasure in ministring to his ease and comfort; they therefore resolved to accompany him themselves. They shewed that it was not a spirit of dissipation and gaiety that led them to Spa; for they were not to be seen in any of the gay and fashionable circles; they were never out of their father's company; they never stirred from home, except to attend him when he went to drink the waters; in a word, they lived a most recluse life, in the midst of a town to which there was a resort of the most illustrious and fashionable personages in Europe. This exemplary attention to a father procured them the esteem and admiration of all the English at Spa, and was at length the cause of their elevation to the rank, on which they reflect as much honour as they derive from it. The Earl of Beverley married one daughter, the Duke of Hamilton another, who is since married to the Marquis of Exeter, and the Duke of Northumberland the third daughter.

The Duke early devoting himself to a military life, served under Prince Ferdinand, in Germany, in the great seven years war.

During the administration of the Right Hon. George Grenville (father of the present Marquis of Buckingham), Sir Andrew Agnew, the governor of Tynmouth-fort, was supposed to be in a bad state of health. When any of the Percy family were in the military line, it had been usual to give them the honour of that appointment, amongst other reasons, in consideration of the handsome manner in which that noble family had behaved to government with respect

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to the barracks for the soldiery. Upon this expected opening, the late Duke of Northumberland applied to Mr. Grenville on behalf of his son, and obtained a promise of the government. Sir Andrew, however, recovered. The noble duke renewed his application; he requested and obtained, not the promise of a minister, but of a greater person, "that his son should be appointed to the government on the first vacancy, whenever it should happen." In the month of August 1771 Sir Andrew died. The present duke (at that time Earl Percy) lost no time in writing to Lord North, who was then minister, expressing his full assurance that the great Personage upon this occasion had not forgotten him; but at the same time intimating, that he esteemed it his duty to declare his readiness to accept of the compliment his father had formerly solicited for him. Lord North, in a very laconic epistle, replied, that it was totally unnecessary to remind the great Person of the promise, for that the government of Tynmouth-fort was already disposed of to the Hon. Major-general Alexander Mackay. The young nobleman, with a spirit worthy of his great progenitors, without hesitation, sent Lord North an answer to the following effect: "That he had received his lordship's letter with an equal degree of concern and indignation; for that whatever his opinion of the present ministers might be, he had always looked upon the great Person's own word to be sacred until that moment."

When the American war broke out he was sent to America, and commanded at the battle of Lexington.

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In the London Gazette, published on the 10th day of June 1775, General Gage says, "that too much praise cannot be given to Lord Percy, for his remarkable activity during the whole day."

On the 16th day of November 1776, his lordship contributed essentially to the reduction of Fort Washington, at King's-bridge, near New York; the column led by his lordship being the first that entered the enemy's lines.

In the year 1777 an opportunity offered for breaking the alliance between America and France, the French government not having performed their engagement of assisting America against England; which produced a coolness between the American congress and the French ministry. A part of the British cabinet thought this was a favourable moment to step in and widen the breach, by proposing to appoint commissioners to go to America to offer terms of conciliation to the congress, and to enter into matters and points of negotiation: and as Lord Percy, who was now in England, had seen America, was a nobleman of high rank and great respectability of character, it was thought most proper to put him at the head of the commission. When the proposition was made known to his lordship, he said he would most willingly and chearfully obey the commands of his Sovereign in every situation; nor would he upon this occasion stipulate, he said, for any emolument whatever; but he hoped, and expected, that he should be honoured with the garter, because that favour would reflect dignity and respectability upon the situation.

situation. The minister, or, as he was then called, the *ostensible* minister, replied, "that his lordship's request could not at that time be complied with, but that his lordship should have it when he returned." Lord Percy, not having forgot the treatment he had met with in the affair of Sir Andrew Agnew, shortly answered, "that he was too well acquainted with courts to trust to promises, and if he could not have it before he went he must decline going." It must be observed, that at this time there were no less than three blue ribbands vacant; Lord Albemarle's, Lord Chesterfield's, and the Duke of Kingston's. But the *real* truth is supposed to have been, that the *secret* cabinet were entirely hostile to the intended embassy of Lord Percy; they wished to *continue* the war with America, and therefore when Lord North made the request, they refused it, in order to put an end to the design.

From this time his Grace has not been actively engaged in public affairs. A state of ill health has more than once obliged him to go to Lisbon, for the benefit of the salubrity of that atmosphere. He has principally attended to the improvement of his estates, to the comforts of domestic felicity, and occasionally, when important subjects required it, to his duties in parliament. The measures of Lord North he could not approve; and those of Mr. Pitt, in several instances, he sincerely condemned. Feeling for the general and permanent interests of his country, he disregarded all local and limited views of temporary ministers, who were created by one breath and extinguished

guished by another. It did not become an antient, great, and highly dignified peer, to foster the mushrooms that grew and fed on his country.

The late duke commenced, and the present duke has completed, not only the repairs, but almost created three princely palaces. When the late duke and duchess came into the possession of their estate, they found Alnwick-castle was become quite a ruin; its roofs fallen in, its towers decayed, and its walls nearly demolished. They immediately conceived the noble design of restoring this great northern castle to its antient splendour; and the design hath been executed with the happiest success: all the decorations and ornaments, though of the highest magnificence, being of the purest gothic, skilfully adapted to the general stile of the original building; which is every where restored to its antient form and destination, with all the advantages derived from the improved state of the arts.

Sion-house was also old, ruinous, and inconvenient. It has been perfectly repaired, fitted up, and finished after the best models of Greece and Rome; and now forms a villa which, for taste and elegance, is scarcely to be equalled in the British dominions.

Northumberland-house was likewise in a ruinous state; but it has been thoroughly repaired, and perfected in the noblest manner.

Their Graces found large tracts of land on their estate in the county of Northumberland which had been suffered to run to waste, and were become deserts. For many years the late duke, and the present duke

duke has followed his father's example, have planted upon these deserts annually from eleven to twelve hundred thousand timber and other trees. In one year has sometimes been planted not less than three hundred acres in one inclosure. The agriculture of the whole domain has been improved and encouraged with the same liberality.

LIEUT. GEN. CHARLES VALLANCEY, LL.D.

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY, AND OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF LONDON, EDINBURGH, AND PERTH; MEMBER OF THE ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY; OF THE PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF PHILADELPHIA, &c. &c.

THE great Lord Clarendon says, "it is a pity there is not some collection made of the lives and actions of heroical, virtuous, and learned men, in several ages, and of several qualities and qualifications, that there might be as well monuments of the virtue, piety, and learning of all ages, as there will infallibly be of their folly and vice; and then, it may be, there would be as many *true* histories of very extraordinary men of the latter, and even of the *present* age, which would inflame others to imitate them, as there are fabulous narratives of those excellent men who lived in the primitive times, of whom we know of very few whose lives were not written till many hundred years after their decease." In compliance with the wish of the noble historian, the following imperfect outline of the life of one of the most extraordinary men of the present age is attempted, in which will be seen the soldier

soldier and the scholar, characters that mutually support and embellish each other.

Lieutenant-general Vallancey is the descendant of an ancient French family that settled in England in the reign of Charles II. As his father was an excellent classical scholar, he was resolved that his son should taste the pleasures that arise from an early and intimate acquaintance with the best Greek and Roman writers; and in order that so desirable an object might be accomplished in its fullest extent, he sent him to Eton.

In this learned seminary the subject of this memoir became acquainted with the present Marquis Townshend; and notwithstanding the friendship of our school-boy days is but too often founded on a similarity of pleasurable pursuits that vanish with our youth, yet this was not the case in the present instance; for the friendship of young Townshend and Vallancey may be said to have "grown with their growth, and strengthened with their strength."

When the nobleman just alluded to was nominated lord-lieutenant of Ireland, he appointed his schoolfellow to the rank of major of engineers on the Irish establishment. The endowments of nature, and the acquirements of art, had peculiarly adapted him to fill this post. Vallancey was now in the prime of life, a fine personable figure, of a gay disposition, "polite with ease, and free without offence." The viceroy, who had entered into the spirit of the Irish character, was well pleased to find that the major was a great favourite with all the wits that encircled the viceregal board:

board; and that the Irish ladies were accustomed to call him the *handsome Englishman*. Vallancey, in his turn, indulged so great a partiality for the natives of that nation, that in the midst of his official avocations he was anxious to catch at every hint that might be united in a general plan for the improvement of the country, particularly the melioration of the wretched state of the peasantry, who began to feel the benign influence of Lord Townshend's administration; an administration that forms one of the brightest æras in the annals of that country, next at least to that of Lord Chesterfield.

The major embraced the first opportunity that presented itself to visit the southern and western provinces; and in order to prepare himself for this tour, his first step was to lay aside those prejudices that are imbibed in our native country, and that but too frequently accompany us in our travels through others. He did not expect that his eye would be cheered as he rode along through Munster or Connaught with highly cultivated farms, stately mansions, and cottages adapted to all the purposes of rural convenience and simplicity. He was pleased, however, to find that the plough-share was not as rusty as represented; that such was the richness of the soil, that the very mountains were covered with perpetual verdure; that their wombs teemed with useful metals; that the corn stood thick on the plains, and "sung for joy."

He saw that encouragement was all that was wanting to wing the shuttle, to nerve the arm of industry, to diffuse the streams of wholesome knowledge, and

to

to kindle the fire of gratitude on its native altar, the human heart. In order to aid in this god-like plan, he collected several notes in the course of his tour, and having arranged them into a series of observations, he transmitted them to the Dublin Society, a patriotic body of gentlemen, who may be said to have kept the sparks of real patriotism alive at the expence of their private fortunes and personal inconvenience, when it would have been entirely extinguished through the chilling frosts of national indifference, apathy, and dissipation.

Major Vallancey next prepared to encounter a task that perhaps no other person at his time of life would have had the resolution even for a moment to entertain. He saw that Ireland was a rich mine of antiquity; that her native writers had mingled the real history of the country with fables in such a manner, that it was almost impossible to separate the one from the other; that these annalists had complained, in the bitterness of their hearts, of the misrepresentations of foreign pens, and that even the great Camden* fell within the circle of this censure, as appears from the

* But it should be recollected that Camden thus speaks of the Irish, page 680:—"Bellicosi sunt, ingeniosi, corporum liniamentis conspicui mirifica carnis mollitie, et propter musculorum teneritudinem agilitate incredibili."

And page 789:—"In universum gens hæc corpore valida et imprimis agilis, animo forti et elato, ingenio acri, bellicosa vita prodigæ laboris frigoris et inediæ patiens, veneri indulgens, hospitibus per benigna, amore constans, inimicitiis implacabilis, credulitate levis, gloriæ avida, contumeliæ et injuriæ impatiens, et ut inquit-ille olim, in omnes actus vehementissima."—CAM. BRIT. p. 680.

following epigram, addressed to the British Pausanias, by the author of *Ogygia :*

> " Perlustras Anglos oculis Camdene duobus,
> Uno oculo Scotos, cæcus Hibernigenus."

Led by his love for a country that was now as dear to him as his own, and, it may be added, by the love of historical truth, the major determined, if possible, to separate the wheat from the chaff, an arduous undertaking that promised little pleasure in the pursuit, that held out expence instead of profit; and as to fame, scarce a single foot of that estate " that we inherit after death." A vigorous and ardent mind, however, was not to be damped by these considerations. In the first place, he found that he could not trust to translations, garbled compilations, or even to the stories that floated on the breath of tradition ; he was resolved, if he drank at all, to drink at the fountain-head, and for this purpose he sat down to study the Irish language, in all its dialects, and in all its ages.

He was assisted in the beginning by a Mr. Gorman, an old man, who understood the modern Irish pretty well, but was an entire stranger to every other language, so that he could not aid his pupil with the comparison of the structure of it with any other tongue; which would have assisted the memory, and familiarized the learner with the oldest branch of the Celtic, which the great Scaliger has ranked as one of the original languages of Europe. Such, however, was the assiduity of his progress, that in a short time he conquered every difficulty that threatened to impede his favourite pursuit ; and that the thorny path which

which he had trod might not be again closed to the entrance of others into the same field, he published a grammar of the Iberno-celtic, or Irish language, in quarto, in 1773.

This, however, was not the first-fruits of his labour in this line. Plautus, who wrote his plays in the second Punic war, introduces into his Paneclus the character of Hanno, a Carthaginian, into whose mouth he puts several Carthaginian (or Phœnician) sentences, the explanation of which has not yet been agreed upon by the learned, notwithstanding the various attempts that learning and ingennity have suggested on that head. Major Vallancey, however, was determined to have a shot at this classical target: he accordingly published a pamphlet, in which he collated these punic phrases with the Irish as now spoken. As the major availed himself in this collation of all the laws of etymology, and as it is well known that similar sounds are to be found in all languages, it is not surprising that in the beginning he found many proselytes to his opinion even in the foreign literary journals. This *new discovery*, as it was then called, could not fail to flatter the vanity of the natives, who were proud to find that the Irish language was spoken in the court of Asdrubal upwards of three thousand years ago. But when the gloss of novelty began to wear off, and when it was found that the major could collate the Iberno-celtic with any other language, nay, even that of Otaheite, those who ventured to think for themselves, and to view things *eruditis oculis*, wished that the author had employed his time in the

faithful translation of some old Irish MSS. that exhibited the manners of the times in which they were written.

Vallancey saw this, and though he was unwilling to give up a point which had cost him so much pains, and in which his ingenuity had carried off the palm from all his competitors, yet he was resolved that his literary fame should not rest upon a pedestal subject to be shaken by the breath of contending opinions; he therefore translated, with great fidelity, an Irish poem, of very ancient date, which began with these words:

Eire ard, Inis na Riogh,
Maighean molbhthach na moirghnconih.*

The major enriched this historical poem with valuable notes; but by some fatality it has not yet been published.

As his celebrity had now extended to the remotest shores of Ireland, and as the natives of that country looked up to him with a reverence that bordered almost on idolatry, every one who was possessed of a manuscript that related either to their own *sept* or to any transaction of the country, especially in those days when that island was called the *quick school of the west*, they thought, and rightly thought, that they could not be committed to the hands of a man who could make a better or more honourable use of them than Major Vallancey. He now began to think, from those documents, that a translation of

* "The lofty Erin, the island of kings, whose wide-extended plains resound with the noble deeds of many heroes."

Jeffery

Jeffery Keating, the flowery and fabulous Jeffery Keating, out of the Irish into the English language, would be an acceptable present to the lovers of natural history, especially if enriched with notes. One Desmod Connor, a native of Ireland, a heraldry-painter in London, had attempted a version of this writer some years ago; but as he was not well skilled in the language of the original, he has committed many errors, and disfigured it with fables and interpolations cast in the mint of his own imagination; so that the Irish Herodotus makes but a wretched appearance in the pied and patched garb that his ignorant countryman has exhibited him in upon the English stage. It is not known what induced Vallancey to relinquish this undertaking in which he had made a great progress.

In the mean time, his writings awakened a spirit of curiosity in the country. Charles O'Connor, Esq. of Balinagam, in the county of Roscommon, was the only gentleman that had hitherto directed his attention to these studies. In the year 1766 he published a dissertation on the history of Ireland, and as he was a perfect writer of the old Irish language, and had received a classical education, much was expected from him. This work, however, was not composed "under the shade of academic bowers," but amidst cares that would have discomposed the most philosophic mind. Yet it possesses great merit; although his zeal for the antiquity of his country blinds him to the truth even where it begins to emerge from fable, through its own minute powers. He could

not prevail upon himself, to question the improbability of the Milesian expedition; he subscribes to it with both his hands, as well as to the idea of an Egyptian colony, which is said to have settled in Ireland in the days of Pharaoh and Moses.

Colonel Vallancey, however, found an able pioneer in Mr. O'Connor, who assisted him to open many passages, which had hitherto baffled the marches of those who were more timid and less excursive in pursuits of this nature. The circle of their readers was now enlarged, and some who had hitherto been content to peruse only what had been written, took up the pen, and tried their powers in short essays or detached fragments, which in all probability would have been lost to the world, if Colonel Vallancey had not proposed to publish a work occasionally under the title of *Collectanea de Rebus Hibernicis*, which would become a *depôt* for contributions of this kind. As the first numbers contained some good documents, several writers joined to support the merits it had already acquired, and the sole management of the arrangement was assigned to Colonel Vallancey, who certainly spared neither time nor pains in the discharge of that important trust. The chief contributors to this literary undertaking were, the Rev. Mr. Ledwich, a name well known in the literary world; the Rev. Mr. Beresford, a clergyman of the church of Rome, and Charles O'Connor, Esq. already named. Those gentlemen, though four in number, were eminently qualified to conduct a work that promised, through the patronage of Colonel Conyngham

Conyngham and a few other public spirited gentlemen, to acquire a degree of celebrity that would at least place it on a level with the productions of other literary societies, devoted to the same laudable pursuits. The Irish reader once more hoped to have the esteem of those days, when " his holy island," in the language of an old English writer, appeared,

" Ut paradisus aut novus circulus lacteus discentium opulans, vernansque pascuoso numerositate lectorum quem admodum poli cardines astriferis micantium ornantur vetraminibus sidorum."*

Those hopes, however, like the promise of an April day, were overcast. The colonel, for we must be impartial, who could bear, like the Turk, " no brother near the throne," finding that some of his opinions were not received with that implicit belief which he thought they were entitled to, broke off all connexion with Mr. Ledwich and Mr. Beresford. This, however, did not put an end to their valuable labours. The late Dr. Thomas Campbell, Chancellor of St. Macartin's, Clogher, joined the seceders, and combated with great force of argument and strength of expression, many of the colonel's opinions.

The doctor at first conveyed his sentiments through the medium of the Dublin Chronicle, under the signature of *Sernaus*. He afterwards incorporated those detached papers, entitled " Strictures on the Ecclesiastical and Literary History of Ireland," published, in London, in 1790.

* Like a verdant paradise stocked with flocks of scholars, or like another milky-way studded with innumerable lights of learning, sparkling as the constellations round the polar star.

In 1785 the Colonel published a tract on the aboriginal Irish, a copy of which he transmitted to the Right Hon. Edmund Burke. The sentiments of this illustrious man, respecting that work, may be collected from the following letter:

TO COLONEL VALLANCEY.

"DEAR SIR,

"I had a serious loss in not seeing you during my short stay in Ireland. My time, indeed, was so very limited, and so very much engaged, that I could not indulge myself in the pleasure of paying my respects to you at Milltown. I was obliged to make amends for the loss of your conversation by your book, for which I give you my best thanks. It is, indeed, a work of uncommon sagacity and erudition, and as entertaining as it is instructive. I often thought I was reading Warburton.

"Your industry in collecting such a body of matter does you great credit; and, by the variety of new relations you have discovered, and the new combinations you have made, and what you have brought from the remotest quarters to bear naturally on your subject, have given the true distinctive character of genius to the work. This is as much as I am qualified to say. Whether your system is fully established is beyond my decision. I know that for the first time you have interwoven and connected, in a manner not easy to be hereafter separated, the Irish antiquities with those of the polite and learned nations, which are not a whit less uncertain than those of their new ally. By shewing their conformity and connection, you perhaps give some better authority to both than either were before possessed of; your system of solving many difficulties by the disposition of colonies, to apply the events and personages of their antient country to their new settlement, is very ingenious, and, when supported by strong analogies of fact, very probable.

"However, we must not forget that in this system we set out by admitting one of the fundamental parts of the story to be enfeebled by the fabulous and the forged, so far as it is laid in the local particulars. We are on this system obliged to establish the credit

credit of our witness, by falsifying the circumstances of his testimony; and to prove that the things are true in some respects, though the relater meant to deceive in others. As told of Ireland the beginning of its ancient history, for which we are obliged to Keating, must be given up. This may still leave some shadow of doubt, even in a mind such as mine, which in all matters of interesting research does certainly not wish to be disappointed. But whether we readers can ever assure ourselves perfectly that we shall arrive at the proposed end of our journey, we have all reason in the world to be pleased with the guide and the companion.

"Will you have the goodness to pardon me for reminding you of what I once before took the liberty to mention, my earnest wish that some of the ancient Irish historical monuments should be published as they stand, with a translation in Latin or English. Until something of this kind is done, criticism can have no sure anchorage. How should we be enabled to judge of histories, or historical discussions on English affairs, where references were had to Bede, to the Saxon Chronicle, to Asser, to Ingulphus, and the rest; whilst these authors lurked in libraries, or, what is worse, lay in the hands of individuals? If nothing else could be done, I should wish to see complete that remaining morsel of the Brehon-laws, in Sir John Seabright's manuscripts. You have published enough, as a specimen, to excite curiosity, and the world has given credit to your labours; we are petitioners for the whole, to the country which has given us a part. There is no doubt of a subscription sufficient to defray the expence. I assure you that when I borrowed those books, upwards of twenty years since, and had first leave to transmit them to Ireland, I did it with a hope and view that something of the kind which I recommend should be done, if any person could be found of ability to do it; that ability has been found; but if any accident should happen to you and Mr. O'Connor, what security have we that any others, like you, should start up?

"You will have condescension enough to give me the pardon I once more request, for the liberty I take in proposing trouble to you, which nothing but the high honour and esteem I have for you could induce me to, as well as the desire I have that I and the rest of the world should be under fresh obligations to your ability and

and public spirit, which has done so much for making the new and old Ireland better known to its inhabitants.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

Beaconsfield, Nov. 29, 1786. " EDMUND BURKE."

The General's friends handed about a copy of this letter. To them it was a matter of high exultation, that the man " whom it delighted them to honour" should be compared to the great Warburton, and that too by the author of the " Sublime and Beautiful." They could see it in one point of view only; a panegyric on the writings of General Vallancey from the beginning to the end. His literary rivals saw it in another. Some of them commented on it with a degree of severity, which convinced that they rather sought for the gratification of personal animosity than the triumph of truth; others, however, delivered their opinion with great candour. Doctor Campbell* appeared on this occasion, where he might be naturally expected to appear, amongst the latter. As a specimen of his sentiments, the following extract on, perhaps, the most important passage in Mr. Burke's epistle, may not be thought too long, as it is a consummation devoutly to be wished by those who are desirous to see the history of Ireland rescued from that contempt into which it has fallen in the eyes of all judicious men, both at home and abroad

" Mr. Burke's language (says Dr. Campbell) was certainly not clearly understood respecting this matter, else Colonel Vallancey's friends would not have been so forward in handing about

* The late Rev. Dr. Thomas Campbell, chancellor of St. Macartin's, Clogher.

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his letter His elegant words are " will you have the goodness to pardon me for reminding you of what I once before took the liberty to mention ; my earnest wish that some of the ancient historical monuments should be published as they stand, with a translation in Latin or English. Until something of this kind be done, criticism can have no secure anchorage. How should we be enabled to judge of histories, or historical discussions on English affairs, where references were had to Bede, to the Saxon Chronicle, to Asser, to Ingulphus, and the rest, whilst those authors lurked in libraries, or what is worse, lay in the hands of individuals?"

" Now here you must, in the first place, acknowledge, that instead of complimenting, Mr. Burke meant to rebuke you, in his polite way, for not following that advice which, it appears, he once had given you ; for why else should he beg your pardon. But to translate the whole into vulgar English, for the everlasting benefit of Irish scholars, " Colonel, I told you once, and I tell you again, that you and O'Connor, and Toland and O'Flaherty, and O'Halloram, are all wrong in dwelling so long on tedious and drawling declamations upon the treasures of knowledge which ye say are to be found in the old Irish authors. I would rather have one original document, than a thousand descants upon their value. If you would persuade me, who also wish not to be deceived, produce the monuments themselves, together with such faithful translations as I can depend upon ; but I must have the whole without any suppression. Till you have done this, criticism can have no secure anchorage. We shall be carried away by every wind of conjecture, till at last we founder on the ocean of ignorance without pilot or pole-star. Dogmatical assertions, and arbitrary etymologies, are very provoking ; for whilst they oppose facts and torture words, they set our patience on the rack. I ask you, what should we, at this day, know of the ancient history of England, if we were not allowed to read the originals, but for ever put off with references to Bede, to Asser, to Ingulphus, and the Saxon Chronicle ; whilst these authors lurked in libraries, or, which is worse, in the hands of individuals? In like manner, the world can never be assured that the Irish books contain the history of a civilized people, till they see them translated. But if it shall appear upon the face of the translations, that the ancint Irish, instead of being

being a polite and learned people, had made no forward movements towards civilization, then the Irish language is not worth preservation. For the animosity and battles of savages and barbarians, are subjects not worthy of commemoration; or, to use the words of Milton, applied to the Saxon heptarchy: "such bickerings to recount, so often met in our writers, what more worth is it than to chronicle the wars of kites and crows, flocking and fighting in the air?"

It is very probable the Irish muse would have sunk into perpetual oblivion, if Colonel Vallancey had not raised her drooping head, and collected some of the fragments of her broken lyre, but when it was, that the sounds which could once animate rocks and trees, and even triumph over death, had lost all their magic, or that a race of men had grown up, in the long interval of her repose, whose hearts were harder than rocks or trees, we cannot pretend to say; but certain it is, that her votaries were few in number, but in point of talent, if not a host, they were at least respectable. In the beginning, as has been already intimated, they set about their labours in good earnest, and as each had the choice of his subject, and was not limited in point of time, these two advantages were very conspicuous in the first numbers of the *Collectanea de Rebus Hibernicis*.

Such productions could not fail, even in Ireland itself, to enlarge the circle of their readers, yet as soon as the gloss of novelty was worn off, a number of these readers vanished along with it. It is only in the sunshine of public praise that productions, in which the immediate interest of the individual is not consulted, can be matured and brought to a certain degree of perfection. "Fondness of fame is avarice

of

of air," and it must be confessed that this is a species of avarice that the Irish nobility and gentry are not subject to. Colonel Vallancey saw and lamented this; he hoped, however, that it was temporary, and that the promise of a brighter day would soon beam on the literary horizon of that long benighted country.

As often as he discovered that any one attempted, even at an humble distance, to tread in the arduous steps he had taken, he stopped in the way, held out his hand, and encouraged them with heart and voice. In plain English, if he found any person in whom even inclination and industry supplied the want of taste or genius, he was always ready to assist them as far as his pecuniary aid or recommendation could extend. He was ready to communicate those intellectual treasures which he had amassed, at the expence of his purse and his pillow. His library, which was rich with "the spoils of time," was open to any person of respectable moral character: nay, he would purchase books himself which he did not want, for the use of those who did want them. Amidst the many facts that could be adduced in support of what has been just asserted, one may be sufficient.

A young man, of good family and liberal education, having accidentally alighted on some of the writings of the colonel, conceived so high an opinion of the generosity of a man who could devote his mind to such *unprofitable* labours, that he addressed the following letter to him. Long as it was, the colonel read it over, and lost no time in recommending the writer to the patronage of Colonel Conyngham, who, with

with his wonted goodness, sent for the young man, and provided for him in a genteel manner:

"SIR, *July* 27, 1780.

"I trust you will pardon this intrusion, if I can prove to your satisfaction that I am a gentleman by birth and education, and that I have ever maintained, and ever will maintain, that character. Yet with all these considerations, I should not have felt myself sufficiently emboldened to write to you, if my heart did not tell me that you are one of the few who can make every allowance for a person in my situation, who embraces the only mode that fortune at the instant has put in his power to introduce himself to your notice.

"I wish I knew where to stop; but I cannot help telling you, what has struck me for some time past as two of the most extraordinary circumstances, perhaps, in the page of history. In the first place, it is rather extraordinary that the seeds of christianity should be planted in this country by an Englishman*, a man of good family, born in a camp; that he should forego, even in the heyday of youth, all the pleasures that fortune could administer for hunger and thirst, and all those dangers incident in those rude times to the life of a good man. Now, Sir, if I am rightly informed, you are as well descended as our tutelar saint; you were also born in a camp, and you are an Englishman.

"Instead of giving yourself up to those pleasures which Dr. Young very properly compares to quicksilver, that elude the grasp, you sat down to study the Irish language; a task that may well be compared to the labours of the mine and the anvil. Indeed, you saw, and rightly saw, that this was to take the stick by the right end; *juvat integros accedere fontes*. The path at first was rugged, overgrown with thorns, and perplexed with doubtful windings; but as you advanced you found some verdant spots, some limpid rills, and shady bowers, that whilome waved in airy silence

* It appears from the confession of St. Patrick, written by himself, and the concurrent testimony of different writers, that the apostle of Ireland was born at Dumbarton, at that time a part of England.

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to the mystic numbers of the bard, or concealed the druid from the "garish eye of day." And though you may be said to be the first that explored these long-neglected regions, it is but justice to say that your success is only equalled by that diffidence which is always the true attendant of real merit. You cannot then, Sir, be ignorant of your ascendancy in every Irishman's heart; nay, in every heart imbued with the love of letters. These are the "temperate sweets" that never cloy; these are the pursuits that render, to use an Irish phrase, the hours of winter as short as the hours of summer; these are the pursuits that wing the soul far above the smoke and stir of this "dim speck called earth."

"I write this in a neat little cottage, built in patriarchal taste, in a remote corner of the county of Leitrim.* Yet, would you believe it, that your name is as well known on the banks of the Shannon, as it is on the banks of the Cam or the Isis; and that we look with as much impatience for the publication of your numbers, as an inhabitant of the pole looks for the return of spring?

"Now, Sir, a little as to my own wishes, and your kind advice. I am now in the twenty-second year of my age, and whatever space of life may have been allotted to me in the iron book of fate, I do not wish, of all things, to be found in the list of those who were born merely to consume the fruits of the earth. You see, Sir, that I consider your stock of patience at least equal to your stock of learning. But I entreat you to listen to me: I have very little experience of the world; nor do I wish to know a great deal of it: for if unfortunately I should be thrown into a line where a certain portion of that knowledge is requisite, then indeed I am undone for ever.

"I think I may say, without vanity, that I know the Irish language tolerably well, and I need not tell you that this is saying a great deal, and perhaps more than I ought to say; but with such a guide as Colonel Vallancey, I think I may venture to say, that with an ardent disposition to triumph over every difficulty, I may

* The county of Leitrim lies in the province of Connaught. It is divided from the county of Roscommon by the river Shannon. In form it resembles an hour-glass. It is fifty-two English miles in length; the greatest breadth twenty, and the least seven and a half. The area contains 407,260 acres, or 652 square miles.

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be found useful in that department, especially in the collation or translation of some of our old manuscripts, which may be truly said to sparkle with native ore.

" I have collected a few of them, and amongst the rest a very curious one, of which I believe there are very few copies extant. It is a geographical tract, written by Gaibhecableach, a celebrated bard of the tenth century, a wight of intellectual darkness. It contains a very minute description of all the harbours, mountains, rivers, &c. of Ireland in these days, with the names by which they were then known. Like all poets, he was fabulous and flowery; but there is so much truth mingled with his fables, that I don't think it would be difficult to separate the one from the other. And as to his poetical flowers, they are as fair as any that ever bloomed in Greek or Roman song; and though they do not all weep in Castalian dews, yet they are embalmed in true love tears, which in my sight render them still more precious. He names a number of islands in the Atlantic Ocean, that appeared and disappeared in his own days. I think there are many facts in geography that will bear him out in this assertion; although I know very well that the eye of the mariner may be deceived in this respect,* as well as the eye of the lover.

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* The following account of a curious deception, extracted from the Gentleman's Magazine, may elucidate the above observations.

" March 4, 1748-9, at two in the afternoon, made land which bore N. E. seven leagues distance by estimation: at five tacked, being about three leagues from said island, wind E. S. E. latitude by observation forty-nine degrees forty minutes, longitude twenty-four degrees sixty minutes, from the Lizard. This island stretches N. W. and S. E. about five leagues long, and nine miles wide. On the south side a fine village, and a great number of birds.

" March 5, said island bore N. three leagues N. W. a reef of rocks three miles. This day a ship's mast came along side. On the south point of said island is a small marshy island."

" A copy of my journal on board the snow St. Paul, of London, bound from South Carolina to London.

WILLIAM OTTAN, Commander."

P. S. Captain

" But I recollect that in examining some MSS. in the Cotton Collection in the British Museum, Vesp. F. IV. 95. I alighted on a tract which gave an account of a number of islands which had arisen out of the sea. The Irish writer also gives an account of a number of floating islands which shine, to use his own expression, like so many emeralds on the bosom of Lough Gowna, an extensive lake in the county of Cavan, which might have been the case; * at present it is sprinkled with many islets that none can

" P. S. Captain Ottan thought he saw a tent on the island, and would have gone ashore, but had unfortunately stove his boat some time before.

" Commodore Rodney is commissioned to go in quest of this island, which according to the report of a master of a ship, and some others, on examination before the lords of the admiralty, lies about fifty degrees N. and about three hundred leagues west of England. Captain Murdock Mackenzie, an excellent mathematician, and author of the sea-charts of the Orkney and Lewis Islands, attends him in the Culloden sloop, to bring back an account of what discoveries he may make. As this island lies out of the track of the trade to America, it is supposed to have been missed by navigators to our colonies, though marked in some Dutch maps. If the commodore discovers it, he is to take possession of it by the name of Rodney's Island."

" Friday, April 10, 1752, Commodore Rodney arrived at Woolwich; he had been cruising ten days in quest of an island, and the men at the topmast head were more than once deceived with what the sailors call fog-banks. About the sixth or seventh day the crew observed branches of trees with their leaves on, and flights of gulls, and pieces of ship-wreck, which are generally regarded as certain signs of an adjacent shore, but could not discover any."—*Gentleman's Magazine for* 1751, *page* 235; *for* 1752, *pages* 88, 189.

* Dr. Edmond Halley has given an account in the Philosophical Transactions of the same kind of floating islands in some lakes of Carnarvonshire, in Wales: and says that he was on one of them, Phil. Trans. 229, page 566. I have also met with the same kind in the barony of Carbery in the county of Cork, as may be seen in that work, Vol. I. p. 283.

view with "uninchanted eye;" but they are stationary. I shewed this work to your friend Mr. Corry, and I will tell you the very words he said as he returned it to me:

"Nior sasàigh esidh rianh me nios mo."*

"Now, Sir, if Colonel Conyngham would turn his eyes to-

Father Acosta, who resided a considerable time in the Spanish West Indies, and wrote the natural and moral history of that country, informs us, that the Mexicans had floating islands, or floating gardens in the water of the lake round the city of Mexico, with fruits and flowers upon them, which they rowed to what part of the lake they pleased; a curiosity not in any other part of the world, and more worthy of admiration than the hanging gardens of old Babylon. Doctor Behrens, in his natural history of Hartz-forest, in Germany, gives us an account of a moving island in a pool near Hochstad two hundred and twenty-four feet long, and sixty-four broad; grass and other herbage grows upon it, and the wind drives it about. Also of a pool near Grunington, in the principality of Halberstad, in which is another floating island grown over with reed, and is a shelter for wild ducks. Herodotus mentions an island floating upon the Egyptian sea Chemnis, upon which there were forests, and a famous temple, dedicated to Apollo. Mela, lib. 5. chap. 5. writes, that near the head of the Nile, was a floating island with several forests and buildings. Pliny, lib. 2, relates of the sea Vademonis, called by the Italians Lago di Bassanello, that there is a floating island, with a thick and dark wood, always in motion. Kircher, in his description of lakes, mentions that the lake near Tivoli, called Salvatera, carries sixteen floating islands, some being round, and some oval, with all sorts of herbs upon them. Valsavor, in his description of Crain, tom. 1, lib. 4, says, that between St. Marian and the town of Weichselburg, is a large pool, upon which is a piece of ground of considerable bigness, with some trees and grass growing upon it, continually sailing about, which affords yearly several loads of hay. I could mention many other floating islands; but this may suffice to convince the reader that these are such.

* I never was better pleased with any thing.

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wards me, I think I could give a faithful translation of this work; and I think I may run the chance of saying, that in point of accuracy and detail it will be found equal at least to the Dinsenchus of Amergins.* But though I can live on as little as any man, yet it would be too great an undertaking for an individual unknown to fame. As the Colonel's heart is filled at present with public business, I would wish to wait till he is more at leisure.

"If this proposition should not meet your approbation, I have another: a young man of apt parts, with a laudable zeal for the antiquities of his native country, and a high veneration for your name, has returned to this parish from Louvain, where he was sent to study divinity. He has brought home with him Colyan's lives of the Irish saints. I cannot tell you the value that he places on this work: every letter is a diamond of the first water. I need not say that it would require a wide throat to swallow the one half of the miracles it contains; but my friend can bolt them all with ease, if I may use the vulgar expression. It is certain this work is very rare; Mr. Price, that good man, shewed me a copy of it in the Bodleian, but the British Museum could not boast of that treasure. Now, Sir, I think if I were to translate this work, and to add notes to it, that it would meet with some readers. It would be in vain to think of publishing it by subscription, for that word you know is not to be found in an Irishman's *vocabulary*. The blood of a poor author runs cold at the bare mention of it; but of this enough. It contains a great deal of the geography of the middle age, which I think, would be acceptable to the colonel. If the Fates should not smile on either of these propositions, perhaps a third may carry off the prize. As the county of Leitrim abounds with the remains of a number of druidical antiquities, it may be that I should be found useful in collecting some of them; as I understand the colonel wishes to say something of the druids, an order that once ruled, I am afraid, with tyrannic sway in all affairs of church and state in this country; an order that disappeared at the very time that history was beginning to shed some

* A topographer of the sixth century. A copy of this work now reposes in the library of Trinity College, Dublin; some profane hand has torn away the title page.

light on them. With regard to these, public expectation was very much disappointed in Toland: he promised a great deal, and I am sorry to add, he performed very little. He could not make use of more materials than time and industry had brought to light; and after all the outcry that has been raised against him, he was too honest to manufacture any: he left that to your Macphersons and Dempsters, &c.

"A number of writers, it is true, have written on the druids and druidical monuments, but, like darkness at the dawn of day, they have added little to the stock of truth. There is an old MS. in the bishop of Clogher (Dr. Garnet's) library, by Macmahon, which is worth consulting on this subject, as I think he has as much as can well be said on a topic that has employed the pen of many an inquisitive writer.*

"I should like very much to collect some materials for the modern history of this country; and as natural history is likely to be the *rage*, and a laudable rage too, I think I could furnish articles even in that line. The classification, observations, &c. are above my capacity. This very county may be called a rich mine of natural history; but there is no encouragement. The ploughshare that ought to shine on the top of the loftiest mountain, is left to

* If the reader's curiosity should be awakened by what has just been advanced on this subject, he may consult the following writers on the tenets or learning of the druids: Diod. Sicul. l. 6. c. 9. Cæsar, l. 6. de bello Gallico. Strabo, l. 4. Sueton. in Claud. c. 25. Tacit. l. 13. annal. Stephanus de Urbibus. Plin. l. 16. c. 44. l. 24. c. 11. l. 29. c. 3. l. 30. 1. Valer. Max. l. 2. c. 1. Cicero de nat. deor. l. 3. Pomp. Mela. l. 3. c. 2. Diog. Laert. l. 1. Lamprid. in Alexand. c. 60. Vopiscus in Aurel. c. 44. & Numer. c. 15. Ammian. Marcell. l. 15. Cœl. Rhodigm. l. 18. c. 21. Rovellard Hist. de Chartres, c. 1. n. 5. Boulay Histor. Academiar. Veter. Galliæ Druidicar. Brower annal. Trev. Dickenson de Origine Druidum. Dupleix Memoir. des Gaul, l. 1. c. 16. & Schurtz fleish dessert. de Vet. instit. Druidum, Es. Pufendorf de Druidibus. Obrecht de Philos. Celt. Religion des Gaulois, t. 1. Bibliotheca Thumasian, t. 1. Rowland's Mara Antiqua. Toland's Hist. of the Druids. Antonius Vieyra Borlace.

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rest. The son treads in the steps of his father; he dare not venture to make experiments, lest they should fail, and the ruthless landlord would seize on his all for the rent the moment it became due; yet there are some landlords,

——————On whose dilated breast
The heavenly dove of pity loves to rest.

"And yet when I cast my eye around, what a country, what a number of fine views, that weep in silent dignity along, what a string of capacious harbours, that invite the passing sail, I need not tell you, Sir, you have seen them all; you know them all; they have all opened their hospitable arms to receive you; and perhaps the time may come that some of them will glory in your name. Your countryman Camden did them justice, and may the turf lie lightly on his breast for that.*

"I have now exceeded all bounds. I am ready to follow your advice, and to obey you in all things. I have a few friends; but the truth is, they would rather check my literary pursuits than forward me in them. They think that learning is a kind of crime in persons of my situation, and that men of fortune only ought to devote their time to study; men of fortune, especially in this part of the country, happen to think otherwise; they are not to be

* "If I may be allowed to make remarks of this nature, the piety and wisdom of the kings of England has been more defective in no one thing than in the due administration of this province (Ireland); and of all Ireland, either in respect of propagating religion, modelling the state, or civilizing the inhabitants. Whether this neglect is to be imputed to a careless oversight, or a design of parsimony, and unseasonable providence, I am not able to determine. But one would think an island so great, and so near us, where there is such good soil and rich pasture, so many woods, so much good metal for digging up, so many fine rivers, and commodious harbours on all sides, convenient for navigation into the richest parts of the world; upon which account great imports might be probably expected: and, lastly, the people, both in respect of minds and bodies, capable of all the employments of peace and war, should of right challenge and deserve our care for the future."

Camden's Life of Elizabeth.

warmed by the hopes of future, or the honest applause of the discerning few; so that you see my hopes rest solely on you and Colonel Conyngham. I shall only say with the sun-dial,

"Aspice ut aspiciar."

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

With the highest esteem and veneration for your character,

Your most devoted servant,

——— ———."

The subject of these memoirs, soon after his arrival in Ireland, commenced a military survey of the kingdom. His Majesty was so well pleased with the outline of this undertaking, that he was encouraged to follow it up, and in 1782 he had the honour of presenting it to the King. In the course of a few days afterwards he was raised to the rank of a colonel. On his return he was solicited by some of his friends to publish a map of Ireland, *ad montem historicorum Hibernorum seculis* ix. x. xi. &c.; in which the true situation of the Cauci, Coriondi, Darnii, Eblani, Menapii, Vaagna, &c. and several other tribes mentioned by Ptolomy and Besius, were to be laid down.

This was an undertaking admirably suited to the talents and literary acquirements of the colonel; but it does not appear that he ever set about it. A few years afterwards a work of this kind was executed by the Rev. Mr. Beauford, a clergyman of the church of Rome, but one of the antiquarian heretics of Ireland. It must be confessed, there never was a more fanciful map of that or perhaps any other country; for if Colonel Vallancey has been justly censured for flying too far on the wings of etymology, Mr. Beauford has undoubtedly

doubtedly in that respect soared entirely out of sight. The Rev. Mr. Beaufort, however, has removed all cause of complaint in his accurate, elegant, and highly finished map of Ireland, published in the year 1792, accompanied by a memoir, which contains more useful matter than any work of the kind which has yet appeared in so small a compass.

A short retrospect of General Vallancey's productions may not be unacceptable in this place. While a captain in the twelfth regiment, he was quartered for some years in Gibraltar, a situation that presented many objects for the pencil and the pen; and as Vallancey could call forth the powers of both, with no small portion of felicity even in those days, he made a sketch of that charming spot, from which a painting was made by Mr. Ashford, an ingenious Irish artist.

The General soon after his first arrival in Ireland published his "Field Engineer." This was followed by a treatise on stone-cutting, and another on tanning. In 1773 he published an Irish grammar, in quarto. In the preface to this grammar he has displayed an uncommon stock of reading; but how far it has tended to elucidate the main subject, must be left to the opinion of those who have resorted to its aid in the acquisition of the Irish language. They are but few; but it is said that those few prefer O'Molloy's grammar, printed in 1677, or Mac Curten's, published in 1732. Our author also published a second edition of this grammar, in 1781, in which he has made some additions, very acceptable to those who

wish to arrive at a critical knowledge of the purest branch of the Celtic language. In 1774 he began a *Collectanea de Rebus Hibernicis*. The plan was well calculated to embrace a number of useful subjects. Colonel Conyngham, that real friend to his country, soon found that a work of this kind could not be carried on so as to insure success, without an union of talents. For this purpose, in 1781, that real patriot, therefore, formed a society, whose joint labours for some time raised the fame of the *Collectanea* to an unexpected height. This society consisted of the following members:

Right Hon. William Conyngham, President.
Charles O'Connor, Esq.
Colonel Vallancey.
Rev. Edward Ledwich, LL. B.
Doctor Ellis.
Rev. Mervyn Archdall, and
William Beauford, A. M.

A difference of opinion on colonization and etymology, however, dissolved this society. Vallancey wished to bolster up the old story of Milesius, and the Egyptian expedition, under their leader Gathelus, which arrested even the pen of the credulous Keating. He was also anxious to prove that the Irish language was the most copious in existence; that it was the oldest in the world; and that it was related to every language on earth. For this purpose he collated it with the Punic, Hebrew, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Greek, Latin, Kalmuc, Tartar, &c. &c. It is to be lamented that a man of such uncommon industry, ingenuity, and learning, should have spent so much

much of his time in etymological enquiries. Etymology has its use; it assists the memory in the acquisition of languages; it is also an amusing pursuit; but in history, geography, &c. it is a dangerous light, that generally "fools its followers" in the end; it is the *ignis fatuus* of science.

The General's last publication appeared in 1802. It is intitled, "A Prospectus of a Dictionary of the Language of the Aire Coti, or ancient Irish, compared with the Language of the Ceuti, or ancient Persians." This prospectus is dedicated to Philip Earl of Hardwick, Lord-lieutenant of Ireland. The preface to the work itself is curious. One would have imagined that time, which brings truth to light; that experience, which is the touchstone of intellectual gold, would at least have taught him to distinguish that precious ore from the vulgar earth, with which it was incrusted; but, instead of that, he has given up the *black* island for the *white* island, and roundly asserted that one word is synonymous with another, according to the *commutation act* of labials with labials, dentals with dentals, &c.; and above all, by the interposition or omission of letters, according to the caprice of the writer, or the idiom of the language. He is the same thing in etymology that Lavater was in physiognomy. In short, he is so charmed with Mr. Wilford's *sacred islands* in the *west*, that he has placed Ireland in that number, and at the head of the list. The situation of the country, the fertility of the soil, and the numerous gifts of nature with which it spontaneously abounds, would entitle the oxygia of the ancients

ancients to some claim of this kind. But if the General has been misled in this opinion, let the blame rest on Mr. Wilford, or Mr. G. Ouseley, or let them divide it between them.

The extracts contained in this curious introduction, with the author's comments on those extracts, were, it appears from a note, offered for publication to a learned society in Ireland. "But the reverend conductors of the press (adds the General) not having thrown off their *icthyocolla* scandinavian spectacles, with which they have long pored over *Fernandes* and his *officina gentium*, rejected the essay *in toto*, and deemed those learned men, Sir W. Jones, Burrow, Wilford, Hallis and Co. fit objects for a mad-house."

Mr. Ledwich,* whose name is not unknown in the literary world, has seldom ventured beyond his depth in his researches into the antiquities of Ireland; but he is fastidious, and sometimes appears even uncandid, although heaven knows the subjects he has written upon might be discussed with a great deal of frankness and good humour; and truth would certainly gain by the adoption of such a mode. When raking into the rubbish of antiquity, why should we endeavour to cast the dust into the eyes of each other? Mr. Ledwich wishes his countrymen to explode all the bardic tales, "as the offspring of licentious fancies" in rude and barbarous ages; and in order to induce them to join in this act of oblivion, he calls for his wings, flees off to his favourite regions in the

* One of the gentlemen to whom the General alludes in this note.

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frozen north, where he happens to meet his old friend Bartholine, who exhorts his readers to be "extremely cautious in studying the Icelandic historians, and not to be imposed on by their *fornum bokum*, nor by their *fornum sagum*, or ancient traditions; for he found both stuffed with absurdities and fictions." But Mr. Ledwich should recollect, and he does not want recollection when it serves his turn, that within the last thirty years it has been found that these very books that his old Danish friend condemns, *ore rotundo*, contain a number of facts, supported by authentic records and existing monuments. Another circumstance ought not to be omitted, and this is, that Bartholine was as ignorant of the Icelandic language, as Mr. Ledwich is supposed to be of the Irish.

In 1783 Mr. O'Connor addressed a letter to General Vallancey, evidently written to prop the tottering superstructure which the general had raised on the unstable foundation of etymology and bardic reverie; and as this letter contains a summary of the general's literary labours, perhaps our imperfect sketch cannot be better closed than with the following extract from it:

Extract of a letter from CHARLES O'CONNOR, Esq. to GENERAL VALLANCEY.

"SIR,

"Your favourable reception of two letters of mine, on the pagan state of Ireland, encourages me to offer you a third, and to offer it with some confidence, as what I have written, and what I have now to add, will be found to receive no mean support from your own learned researches on the origin and literature of the ancient inhabitants of this country. Your knowledge on this subject, was drawn from various, but clear sources; mine must be more confined,

fined, as it has been extracted chiefly from the documents still preserved in our ancient language. In the darkness which enveloped our earliest domestic accounts, I found some objects visible, and indeed distinct enough, to enhance expectation, that those on which time had cast a fuller light, would be worthy of attention. I have endeavoured to shew, that many facts exposed in our more ancient reports, are not the inventions of our more ancient bards, but the remains of some memorable man's actions, over which poetic licence had spread a garb of fable, in the times which preceded the more enlightened periods of civilization. In labouring to separate the true from the false, I had the example of many able antiquaries to justify me, as I had the example of others to guard against; who on the present subject, published little else, besides their ignorance and confidence.

" In the most celebrated countries of Europe, as well as in this detached island, many important truths regarding the early state of mankind, have been obscured in the fables of the poets, our first historians. It was thus even in Greece, whose old inhabitants borrowed the elements of their knowledge, from nations they afterwards styled Barbarians. Their earliest accounts are shrouded in fiction and mythology, and to strip off that covering, has given employment to some great names of the last and present century. They laboured with great advantage to literature, and added to the sum of our knowledge. They would still add more, had they undertaken the present subject, and previously struck out for themselves, the lights you have struck out for others, who may hereafter employ their abilities upon it, to discover the ancient course of government and manners in Ireland, through the several stages of youth, maturity and decline. But this subject should be undertaken in the present age, before the documents we have left are lost, or rather before the few who can read and explain them, drop into the grave.

" Some of those materials dispersed in England and France, cannot readily be consulted. Some that I have been collecting for many years are valuable; and of some equally valuable, put into my hands by Colonel Conyngham and yourself, I have, (I think,) made some good use. I was far from being encouraged by an idea industriously propagated, that the old annals of this country, are

are unproductive of the instruction which history should afford, for rectifying civil legislation, or securing the just right of individuals in every degree of sub-inordination. I was as little obstructed by another idea, which undoubtedly has plausibility to countenance it. Many sensible men cannot conceive how a *nation of islanders*, cut off for many ages, from intellectual intercourses with Greece and Rome, could antecedently to the reception of christianity, transmit any historical memorials of themselves, while the other northern nations of Europe transmitted none, till instructed by the example of their Roman conquerors. This negative argument, and the great pains taken of late, to shew its sufficiency, might have weight with yourself, Sir, on your revolving this uncommon circumstance first in your mind. But on reflection, you did not think it enough, to rest upon a bare negative, and you found no difficulty in supposing, that this nation, undisturbed through many ages by foreign invasion, might in their pagan state, obtain the elements of arts and literature, from instructors different from those of Greece and Rome. On examination, you discovered strong marks of such an event, and they led you to conceive, that this sequestered people might, in favourable conjunctures, improve the rudiments of science they fortunately received; and that once possessed of the *means*, they did not neglect the *practice*, of registering the operations of their own minds, on every subject that occurred to them. Examples of such improvements in other countries, and in early times might be produced, and fatally, some examples also, of a relapse to the savage state, through conquests and extirpation. But such calamities, in the extreme, were never experienced in Ireland.

"On this subject you have been almost singular in hitting on means of investigation, the most effectual for obtaining the certainty which removes doubts, and silences controversy. They are means which no British antiquarian before you, the excellent Mr. Llind excepted, had the patience to employ. To your knowledge of the Hebrew, Syro-Chaldaic, and the other oriental tongues, from which the Phœnician was derived, you have with great labour, added the knowledge of our own Iberno-Celtic, as preserved in our old books; and thus enabled to compare the *latter* with the *former*, you could, on finding in the language of Ireland, a much greater number

number of Hebrew and Punic terms, than could fall in by mere accident, conclude that the tradition among the old natives, of early intercourses between their ancestors and the Orientals, is well grounded. You made the trial, and, very probably, succeeded beyond your expectation. This led you to examine whether the writings which contained the *words*, had retained any *facts* also, which might be quoted as additional proofs of those early intercourses. In this research likewise, you had success: prepared by no prejudice in favour of our domestic reports, you have examined them with the circumspection, and with the doubts also, of severe criticism. On more than one capital point, you found their evidencies consistent: you found them satisfactory also, and the lights you received impelled you to seek for more. In the ancient religious rites of Ireland, you found some that were not of Celtic, or pure Druidic extraction, but in oriental history, you immediately discovered the source, from whence those religious rites have been borrowed.

"On such foundations, the confronting of domestic with foreign testimonies, must be found useful. Some confronted by myself in former essays you have not rejected; on the contrary, your superior erudition brought additional force to some of the facts I have paralleled: and doubtless, it is not a little extraordinary, to find several reports of our oldest bards, confirmed by old Greek writers: though it could not appear so, but that we know, the reporters on one side, could not possibly hold any communication with the reporters on the other.

"By comparing the language of nations, you should trace the speakers of each to their true origin. The language of the Phœnicians, you find to have a close kindred with the Hebrews; that of the antient Irish to be Scytho-Celtic, derived from the primæval language brought into Europe by the Celts and Scythians. How, therefore, the language of Ireland, (a country vastly remote from the nearest parts of Asia) could be mixed with a great number of oriental terms you have accounted for. You have proved from authentic history, that in an early age, a swarm of Scythians have settled themselves on the confines of Palestine and Phœnicia, where they had an opportunity of adopting some rites of the Hebrew theology, and of learning some oriental arts. What stay they

they made in those parts, before they took another flight, is not known, but that they migrated westward and traversed various regions from time to time, which bordered on the Mediterranean, Tyrrhene, and Ægean seas, you have sufficiently shewn. That a party of these Scythian rovers should in the course of ages, find their way to the Britannic isles, we need not deny, as the fact is possible, and denial will be vain. When the fact is proved true, it will reduce some modern hypotheses into a heap of ruins.

"Several of these facts extracted by you, Sir, from foreign documents, are paralleled by similar passages in our book of Migrations. Therein we have a recital, that the leaders of the last heathen colony, who possessed Ireland, were of Scythian extraction, and named themselves *Kinea Scuit*, i. e. descendants of Scythians. That in the east they learned the use of sixteen letters, from a celebrated Phenius, from whom they took the name of Phenii or Phenicians; that the descendants of this Phenius traversed several countries, particularly those bordering on the Mediterranean and Greek seas; that they sailed through the straits of Hercules, landed on the island of Gadir [Cadiz], and having sailed along the western coasts of Spain, settled there among the Celtes of that country, and particularly in Brigantia; that, finally, they sailed from Spain to Ireland, where they have put an end to their peregrinations and disasters, and made a lasting settlement. I need not inform you, Sir, that these accounts are swelled with the fabulous and marvellous: it is enough that some of the principal facts are supported by parallel relations from foreign history.

"Of this origin of the *Scots from Scythians, and of their mixture

* Of the expedition of the ancient Scots from Spain, and of Ireland, of their establishing colonies in future times in North Britain, all the historians of the latter country have been full, down to the seventeenth century. John de Fordun, Hector Boethius, Bishop Lesly, and Chancellor Elphinston, have been unanimous on this head. So constant a tradition amongst the Caledonians was far from being rejected by Buchanan. Thus he begins his fourth book: "Cum nostræ gentis historiam aggrederemur, pauca visum est supira repetere: ea potisimum, quæ a fabularum varietate abessant, et a vetustis rerum scriptoribus non dissentirent. Primum omnium constans

with the Celts of Spain, and of their arrival in Ireland from that country, the tradition has been invariable. It has been invariable among the Scots of Britain; also * Nennius, the Welsh antiquary, has recorded it; and the excellent Mr. Lluid † has, from researches on our Celtic tongues, declared the expedition of the Scots from Spain to Ireland an indubitable fact. In my former letters to you, Sir, I have examined this matter more in detail, and to those I refer.

"I shall now take a short view of our insular affairs, and begin at the commencement of the revolution now mentioned. After some sharp conflicts, the foreign invaders brought the old natives to submit to their authority, and to a monarchical form of government, established under very limited powers. It is remarkable, that the Scytho-Celtic dialect introduced by those strangers was so intelligible to the old Belgian and Danan inhabitants, as to require no interpreter between them. This fact, useful to history, is of use in chronology also. In the times antecedent to the Roman conquests in Gaul, the several dialects of the Celtic or Scytho-Celtic, underwent no great variations in the west, from the shores of the Baltic to the pillars of Hercules. It was only when nations quitted the roving state for fixed settlements and regulated government, that those dialects were formed into distinct tongues of different syntaxes, and that the copiousness and strength of each was in proportion to the degree of improvement made in the civilization of the speakers. Of these Celtic tongues of different construction only two remain at this day, preserved in old manuscripts; one in Ireland, and the other in Wales; the latter, formed from

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stans fama est, quam plurima etiam indicia confirmant, Hispanorum multitudinem, sive a potentioribus domo pulsam, sive abundante sobole ultro profectam, in Hiberniam transmisisse: ejusque insulæ loca proxima tenuisse, &c."

* Novissimè venerunt Scoti a partibus Hispaniæ ad Hiberniam, Nen. edit. per Bertram, A. D. 1757.

† Nennius and others wrote many ages since, an unquestionable truth when they asserted the Scotish nations coming out of Spain. See Mr. Lluid's translation of his Letter to the Welsh, in Bishop Nicholson's Irish Historical Library, page 228.

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the old Celtic of Gaul, and the former from that of Spain, mixed with Phœnician or Carthaginian terms. In both we find a community of Celtic words, both being certainly derived from the primæval language of the greater part of Europe; but the different syntaxes of these words prove demonstrably that the old Scots of Ireland, and old Cambrians of Wales, originated from different Celtic stocks.

"The first inhabitants of Ireland being swarms mostly from Britain, spoke the British-Celtic undoubtedly; but they spoke it in its original simplicity, and with small variations: confined to few words, as the speakers were to a few ideas, it was adapted to the rudeness, and accommodated to the ignorance, of the earlier ages. Until the introduction, or rather improvement of literature, the primæval Celtic was a language of great sterility. It split first into dialects; and when civilization and letters were introduced, those dialects (as I observed before) were gradually formed into different tongues. The dialect brought into Ireland by the Scots took the lead (so to speak) in forming the language of Ireland; but it took a long time undoubtedly before it arrived at the energy, copiousness, and harmony we discover in some fragments of the heathen times, which are still preserved.

"In fact, the tongues of Wales and Ireland on the introduction of letters, and in the first stages of improvement, were no better than the uncouth dialects of a people emerging from antient rudeness. They must expire with the causes that gave them existence; and had they survived in monumental inscriptions to this day, they would be no more intelligible to us, than the Latin jargon in the days of Numa Pompilius would be intelligible to the Roman people in the times of Augustus."

Without presuming to decide finally on this very intricate subject, we shall conclude with observing, that the general, who is now upwards of eighty years of age, by a dignified œconomy, has been enabled to educate and provide for a large family. He is a member of all the useful institutions in Ireland; and has

collected a cabinet of the most curious productions of that country, in the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms.

RIGHT HON. LORD CATHCART.

THE subject of the following pages is sprung from one of the most ancient and illustrious families in the united kingdoms; a family which has produced statesmen and military characters of the first respectability.

The Cathcart family may be traced to a very early period, for in 1178, a member of it was a witness to a deed which is still extant. The name is derived from lands in Renfrewshire, now known by the town of Cathcart. Another of the family was one of the barons who swore allegiance to Edward I. of England. James II. of Scotland, in 1443, ennobled the house of Cathcart, and the present lord is the tenth who has held the title in lineal succession. His grandfather was a general in the service of Great Britain, being colonel of the third regiment of horse in Ireland, now the sixth dragoon guards, and governor of Duncannon Fort. He was appointed by George II. to command an expedition in conjunction with Admiral Vernon against Carthagena, but his lordship died at sea in 1740, and was buried on the beach of Prince Rupert's bay, in the island of Dominica, where a monument is erected with an inscription to his memory.

The late Lord Cathcart, father to the present, was also

also a general officer, and during the war of 1741, served on the continent under the great Earl of Stair, with much credit. He was severely wounded on the head, at the battle of Dettingen in 1743, where George II. commanded in person. After the accession of the late Catherine Empress of Russia, he received the appointment of ambassador at her court, and was much noticed by that enterprizing and politic princess. On his return, his lordship represented his Majesty as lord high commissioner to the general assembly of the church of Scotland, during many years.

William, the present Lord, was born in the year 1755, and succeeded his father in 1776. In North Britain the study of the law is looked upon in so respectable a light as to form part of the education of the nobility and gentry. Among the number instructed in it, was Lord Cathcart, who had for a fellow student, among many others who have distinguished themselves, the present Earl of Lauderdale. In 1776, his lordship took his degree in the faculty of advocates, but, we believe, never practised. His name, however, still remains in the list.

On the commencement of the American war, the martial spirit of his ancestors, which seemed inherent in him, induced this nobleman to enter into the army, and he became first a cornet, and afterwards a lieutenant in the seventeenth regiment of light dragoons. This corps then formed part of the army under General Sir William (now Lord Viscount) Howe. On the 10th of December 1777, he obtained a

troop in the same regiment, and if we remember right, his rise from cornet to captain was accomplished in less than twelve months. So rapid a promotion was amply merited by his great attention to the duties of his profession, and the circumstance of being engaged on actual service. What a contrast between him and the field officers in petticoats prior to the appointment of the present royal commander in chief!

In 1778, Captain Sutherland, aid-de-camp to General Sir Henry Clinton, who succeeded Sir William Howe as commander in chief, raised a *corps* of infantry, composed of natives of North Britain, which he named the Caledonian volunteers; this was relinquished in favour of Lord Cathcart, who was appointed major-commandant. His lordship new-modelled the whole, by introducing cavalry, and likewise gave it the appellation of the British legion. The present General Tarleton, who had distinguished himself greatly in America, was afterwards appointed to the command of it, with the local rank of lieutenant-colonel; and Lord Cathcart, then acting as quarter-master-general, was removed to the thirty-eighth regiment as major. Nor did the career of preferment stop here, for in February 1781, he was promoted to a command in the Coldstream regiment of guards, which gave him the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the army. About the same time, his lordship also returned and joined his regiment.

In November 1788, that highly distinguished corps, the twenty-ninth regiment of infantry, having returned to England, his Majesty was pleased to confer

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the command, then vacant by the death of a worthy veteran, Lieutenant-general Tryon, on the Earl of Harrington. Of this regiment his lordship had been captain of grenadiers during the war in America, and the excellent discipline joined to the high character it had acquired, together with the appointment of a military character like the new colonel, induced many officers to solicit the honour of serving in it. Among this number was Lord Cathcart, who exchanged his company in the guards with Lieutenant-colonel Lord Henry Fitzgerald, in October 1789. His lordship accordingly joined the corps, and as it was long stationed at Windsor, his Majesty, whose knowledge of the military profession is conspicuous, was pleased on every occasion to give repeated marks of his approbation to the field officers of it, which ultimately led to the honours he has since heaped on them.

In 1788 his lordship met with a severe loss in the death of his brother, Lieutenant-colonel Charles Cathcart of the ninety-eighth regiment, who died on his passage to India. This promising young man, who appears to have inherited the diplomatic talents of his father, was appointed to an embassy to Pekin, from which much was expected. It was afterwards revived, and failed, under Earl Macartney, but from what cause is foreign to this article.

In November 1790, Lord Cathcart got the rank of colonel by brevet, and was justly considered not only as a promising officer, but as one likely to attain the highest honours of his profession.

His Majesty wishing to see a body of troops practise the new system just then introduced in the army,

an encampment was formed on Bagshot-heath near Hartford bridge, during the summer of 1792. On this occasion, Lord Cathcart commanded the twenty-ninth regiment, Lord Harrington acting as a brigadier-general. It is almost needless to add, that on the day the King honoured the field with his presence, the different corps distinguished themselves highly, and merited the warmest acknowledgements.

In December of that year, his Majesty having been pleased to give the command of the first regim nt of life-guards to the Earl of Harrington, with the gold stick annexed to it, he did not forget Lord Cathcart on the occasion, but promoted him to the command of the twenty-ninth.

War having been declared against Great Britain in 1793, among the many plans formed by the cabinet of this country against the republicans, was the carrying hostilities into France, under the gallant Earl Moira, a name always dear to every British soldier. An army was accordingly formed in the course of that year, at Portsmouth, and among the officers selected to act under him, was Lord Cathcart, who was appointed a brigadier-general on the 20th of November. With this rank he repaired to the coast of France, and afterwards returned to Southampton, where this fine body of troops lay long in inglorious ease, and lost a number of men from sickness. Had Lord Moira's plans been adopted, this expedition would have assumed a far different aspect.

In the summer of the following year, Earl Moira with nine regiments of infantry, in all about seven thousand

thousand men, without cannon, was ordered to embark for the relief of Ostend, then threatened by the French. He arrived before it the 26th of June. Finding that the place was not tenable, and judging that such a body might be a great addition to his Royal Highness the Duke of York's army, he determined to effect a junction, which he happily achieved on the 9th of July at Malines, in a manner that will always stamp his fame as one of the first generals in our service. The share of Lord Cathcart in these achievements, proved so creditable to his talents, that he was soon after appointed to the command of a brigade under his Royal Highness the present Commander in Chief. In October of the same year, his lordship obtained the rank of major-general.

During the unfortunate retreat through Flanders and Holland, the subject of these memoirs exhibited many proofs of his professional abilities, particularly in the attack and defeat of the French at Bommel, on the 30th of December 1794, when he commanded a brigade under General (now Sir) David Dundas. But in the action near Buern, on the 8th of January following, he may be said, in the language of the late General Burgoyne, to " have on that day stampt his fame for life." General Harcourt, then commanding the British troops, in his dispatches to his Royal Highness the Duke of York, says, " As soon as more troops of General Dundas's came up, Major-general Lord Cathcart, with the fourteenth, twenty-seventh, and twenty-eighth, and the British hulans, attacked the enemy, and drove them back with loss beyond Geldermalsen.

dermalsen. Nothing could exceed the conduct of Lord Cathcart and those regiments on this occasion, though I am sorry to inform your Royal Highness that they suffered very considerably. I have as yet received no returns of their loss, which I believe amounts to one hundred and sixty killed and wounded." The following extract from a letter of General Dundas, under whom his lordship acted, to General Harcourt, places his conduct in a still higher point of view: "Major-general Lord Cathcart, with the fourteenth, twenty-seventh, and twenty-eighth regiments, after an attack of several hours, drove the enemy opposed to him (eight hundred infantry, two squadrons of cavalry, and a piece of cannon) beyond the village of Geldermalsen, and there took the cannon. For the particulars I refer you to Lord Cathcart's report to me, to whose able conduct, and to the steadiness and gallantry of the troops, so conspicuous on this occasion, we are much indebted." As our readers will undoubtedly think that his lordship's own modest account of this action is not unworthy of a place here, we shall therefore insert it:

"Sir,

"On receiving your commands to reconnoitre the enemy, by whom the pickets towards Geldermalsen were driven in, and to replace a post opposite to that place, I took a detachment of thirty hulans, with the light companies, and advanced towards the dyke. The hulans charged the advanced guard of the enemy, and pursued them to Buremalsen, where they killed some men, &c.

"Finding the enemy at that time near me did not amount to more than eight hundred men, with some hussars, and one piece of cannon, I determined immediately to dislodge them, and accordingly brought up the remainder of the twenty-seventh regiment,

ment, the fourteenth, and two field pieces. The fourteenth formed on the ice on the left of the dyke, and the twenty-seventh across the inclosures on the right, supported by the picket, &c.

"'The troops marched in this order as expeditiously as possible, driving the enemy before them. By the time they arrived at Buremalsen the enemy had passed the river, and were attacked at Eldermalsen, whence they kept an incessant fire of musquetry and grape-shot.

"The British line advanced without any halt, and the twenty-seventh regiment gradually changing its direction to the left, as it approached the mill, at once charged the village across the ice beyond the burned bridge, and seized the cannon, while the fourteenth entered it on the right, &c. &c."

Brilliant as all the actions proved during the remainder of this campaign to the British, yet they were not of any advantage. The severity of the weather, which froze up the most rapid rivers in Holland, enabled the republicans to force the allies to quit that country. While an individual of that army remains, can he forget the inhospitality and cruelty of the Dutch, whom Britain has fostered and protected with more than parental care, since the time they shook off the iron yoke of Spanish despotism, and contended with the mad ambition of Louis XIV.? Venerable shades of those patriots who fell in the glorious cause of emancipating your country, behold the dastardly and degenerate inhabitants of your once virtuous and happy nation, now a wretched province of all-devouring France!

With the British cavalry Lord Cathcart embarked for England in 1795, to enjoy that repose in the bosom of his family which he had for many months been a stranger to. The reception he met with from his Sovereign

Sovereign was highly creditable to both; for as a more substantial mark of his royal approbation, he was graciously pleased to take another colonel from the 29th regiment of infantry, and invest him with the second gold stick in August 1797, vacant by the death of Lord Amherst. Thus, in the course of less than five years, were the two first regiments in the British service given to young and active officers; an instance of that laudable discernment which has been constantly exemplified by his Majesty in military affairs. The alteration that has taken place in consequence of the appointment of the Earl of Harrington and Lord Cathcart, in the discipline, dress, and interior œconomy of the two regiments of life-guards, justly verifies what we have advanced, and reflects the highest credit on their exertions. Instead of a heavy lethargic corps of cavalry, commanded by superannuated officers, we now possess a fine body of active young men; and what redounds still more to the credit of their lordships, they are so disciplined as to serve either as cavalry or infantry.

During the latter years of the former war, Lord Cathcart was on the London staff under Field-marshal his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, and Lieutenant-general the Earl of Harrington; and at the last promotion of general officers, in October 1801, he was raised to the rank of lieutenant-general. Since the recommencement of hostilities he has reassumed his former station, and in that capacity has lately issued orders for the fortification of the capital. Besides his military appointments, his lordship is one of the sixteen

teen representatives of the Scottish peerage in the imperial parliament, a member of his Majesty's most honourable privy council, vice-admiral of Scotland, and lord-lieutenant of Clackmananshire in that kingdom.

In 1779 his lordship married Miss Elliot, daughter to Andrew Elliot, Esq. of New York, in North America, by whom he has several children. His eldest son is a captain in the royal navy, and the second son is a captain in the second regiment of life-guards. Lord and Lady Cathcart are great favourites of their Majesties and every branch of the royal family. They are constant guests at all the parties and fêtes given by her Majesty; and his lordship is a frequent attendant on his Majesty in his excursions on horseback. Her ladyship is also lady of the bed-chamber to the younger princesses. In short, no noble couple in the kingdom enjoy more of the countenance and regard of royalty than Lord and Lady Cathcart, and none are more deserving to be so distinguished.

Since this article was written, Lord Cathcart has experienced a new and distinguished mark of royal favour, by his appointment to the important and lucrative office of commander in chief in Ireland.

LORD FRANKFORT, BARON GALMOYE,

OF THE KINGDOM OF IRELAND.

LODGE EVANS MORRIS, eldest son of Redmond Morris, M. P. for the city of Dublin, and brother to the first Viscount Mountmorris, is descended from

from a family of the highest reputation in his native country, as his progenitors were among the first English warriors who repaired to Ireland, and not unfrequently entrusted with the deputyship and government of the kingdom in early periods. He himself was bred to the bar; but as he possessed an independent fortune, he never practised as a member of that profession.

The subject of this memoir early in life became united to Miss Fade, an heiress of the highest accomplishments; no issue proceeded from this marriage, and he has ever since remained a widower.

His lordship, while very young, obtained a seat in the Irish parliament, and was a strong partizan of the Ponsonby family, and a violent oppositionist to the administration of Lord Townshend. It was he who moved the famous address, which had for its object the disgrace of the lord-lieutenant; and though not successful in that measure, the chief governor found himself often in minorities during several sessions of parliament. But the speaker Ponsonby having resigned the chair, Lord Townshend was at length enabled thereby to effect the object of his mission, namely, to break the aristocracy. He then resigned the government, and one of his immediate successors having, without reason or necessity, loaded the country with jobbs and pensions, from that æra may be dated the origin of seriously contemplating the necessity of a legislative union, which many other and more cogent reasons afterwards ripened into maturity.

The administration of Lord Townshend was conducted

ducted with ability: that eccentric nobleman possessed wit and humour, and was also the cause of much of both in others; a succeeding one, which began with concessions, ended in profligacy and corruption.

Irish politics from this period are little better than a history of rapine and profligate parties. The house of commons became inundated by wrangling lawyers and greedy place-hunters; yet it cannot be denied that splendid talents were not wanting in a Flood and a Grattan. Great matters were indeed achieved by the latter; and if Ireland could have been preserved from the necessity of a legislative union, it would have been done by him; but the very benefits he was instrumental in procuring turned the tide in favour of that measure. The country was not fated to stand alone with such a parliamentary constitution as it possessed; the original state of the representation was formed against reason,* and in the end it became a sink of corruption.

* More than two-thirds of the Irish boroughs constituted what is called *close boroughs*; that is, were made to consist of a sovereign or portreeve, and twelve burgesses, and thrown under the protection, and into the possession of some protestant landlord. Even that was not found to be a sufficient engine against the catholic influence, and the test-act was accordingly introduced, by which no freeholder or freeman could vote for a member of parliament, without taking first the oath of allegiance, then the oath of supremacy, and lastly the oath of abjuration. By the two last of these the whole body of Roman catholic freeholders were directly disfranchised, and were also excluded from sitting in parliament, as they could not be admitted without taking the oaths in question: and to this day the two last are the only impediments to the Irish papists sitting in the house of lords and commons.

Three

Three religions prevailed at the same time in the country, nearly balancing each other. The protestant was the most powerful; the Roman catholic the most numerous; while the dissenters were in possession of the staple trade of the country, the linen manufacture. Every thing was in confusion, and the lower classes at length flew into open rebellion, flattered by political parties, who thought they should have been able to regulate and make auxiliaries of them for political purposes; but, alas! this, in the end, proved impossible. The great men, ashamed of what they had done, but unwilling at the same time to acknowledge their errors, weakly kept aloof, and brought on themselves the imputation of disloyalty, than which nothing was further from their principles, and the whole tenor of their lives and characters.

The measure of a legislative union had long lurked in the minds of the principal ministers of England; the secret was well kept; it had been darkly imparted, indeed, to one or two lord-lieutenants, but the ability of the Irish administration was insufficient for this purpose; and it required such a minister as Mr. Pitt, and such a secretary as Lord Castlereagh, to bear up the measure against the bold energetic eloquence of a Grattan, and the nervous and imposing statements of a Foster, who in his own theatre left nothing unattempted or untried; and he brought it fairly to this issue, if it should ever have the effect of being a bad measure, that Mr. Grattan and he will have the eternal merit of their opposition to it; and if it should turn out a blessing to Ireland, Mr. Pitt and Lord

Lord Castlereagh will have effected the greatest benefit that was ever conferred by ministers on any empire.

In the politics of the day Lord Frankfort always took a zealous part. He knew the house of commons, by which is meant *the ultimate division of numbers*, better than any other man, and was therefore always considered as a high acquisition. On the great question of the regency, he as well as his party were decidedly in favour of the heir-apparent. But it would be absurd to flatter that majority with the idea that they acted perfectly correct; for by the constitution of Ireland the Irish nation is bound to follow the decision of England, both in respect to the descent of the crown, and all the appointments consequent thereon.

But although that matter was neither thoroughly understood at that time, nor properly urged in the debates that took place, it proved on the question of union a strong reason for the adoption of that measure. The fortunate recovery of the King, however, rendered the mistakes of the Irish parliament unavailing, although it impressed the mind of the Prince of Wales with this serious truth, that the representatives of the Irish nation were attached to him and his illustrious house with the most ardent zeal and affection. Upon the whole it must be owned, that there was something unfortunate in this question coming on in the manner it did; for it might have been avoided if the lord-lieutenant, who was the Marquis of Buckingham, had either prorogued the parliament, or, what

was

was still better, had procured an adjournment of the house of commons for a fortnight. The King's recovery would have thus prevented the discussion that ensued; but this not being the case, it fell heavy on its partizans, for besides the dismission of the Ponsonbys from all their employments, Lord Frankfort, then Mr. Lodge Evans Morris, was removed from the treasurership of the post-office, and clerkship of the permit, a most beneficial and lucrative sinecure office.

After this period his attendance in the house of commons was not so regular as formerly, and he himself was not so violent a partizan as before. At length, on the appointment of Earl Fitzwilliam to the government, he was nominated second secretary in the civil department, an office of the highest trust and confidence, endeared still more by a connexion with the two best and most amiable men in the empire, the lord-lieutenant and his principal secretary, Lord Milton, now Earl of Dorchester.

There was a kind of fatality attending this administration, for neither the views of ministers, nor the objects of the lord-lieutenant were sufficiently understood by each other. It ought not to be omitted, however, that it is unusual to appoint any subordinate branch of administration with full powers, and that it has been always understood that they are controulable not only on every measure, but in the midst of any proceeding. This, however, appeared too much for the virtuous and dignified mind of the then viceroy, as he had been early committed to a measure in favour of the catholics; no middle course could be steered upon

upon this occasion, and the best man who ever governed that or any country resigned in disgust, after a session of four months; during which time he procured a vote of supply without a debate, upon mere confidence of the man, greater than ever was obtained before in Ireland.

Mr. Morris on this resigned the secretaryship, and at the end of that session of parliament gave up his seat, intending never to resume it; however, after no great length of time, he was encouraged to enter again into a political life, freed from all party connexion whatever: he was then introduced to the board of his Majesty's most honourable privy council, and was appointed, during the administration of Lord Camden, a commissioner of the treasury, through the recommendation of his constant political friend Lord Pelham, to whom he had been early in life introduced by his attachment to the Duke of Portland, from whom he never had been separated during thirty years of political struggle. Thus embarked on the side of government, he was zealous in the question of union, and being fortified by the joint opinion of those who promoted the measure, and by principle in the cause, upon that taking effect he became a peer (an engagement made to him so long back as the government of the Duke of Rutland). The title of Frankfort was derived from a denomination of lands in the county of Kilkenny; but that he applied for was Chepstow, whence his great ancestor Henry of Mountmorris had come to Ireland originally; but

this title being in the Beaufort family, was declined to be granted.

Exclusive of a man's political life, it is fair to review him in civil society. Lord Frankfort is a trustee of the linen-manufacture, and has always been a principal promoter of every useful and beneficial scheme for the advantage and honour of his country. He was also a trustee for the expenditure of large sums of money for the fisheries of Ireland on the coast of Donegal. He is vice-president of the Dublin Society, an institution which owes much to the attention of his father and himself, and which is now become a national object of immense importance, being liberally supported by parliament, upon a scale of the greatest magnitude.

The farming societies of Ireland are objects of his peculiar attention, and he has ever been indefatigable in the promotion of the arts, manufactures, and commerce of his native country, labours useful in the highest degree, and more particularly because they are looked upon by many with a fastidious eye; by some as unworthy their notice; by others as a source of private interest; but by none with a more sincere and constant zeal for the benefit of Ireland, than Lord Frankfort.

As a lover and promoter of all the pleasures of social life, his lordship stands unrivalled; public amusements and gallantry, as connected with a high sense of honour, have always been leading features in his character, which has never been once impeached.

A new musical club, called the "Irish Harmonic Society,"

Society," has been lately instituted, of which Lord Frankfort was the patron, and is now president; if its success can be judged of from the specimen exhibited lately at the Rotunda, it bids fair to be productive of the highest applause to a nation, which may be considered as attuned to musical performances. His lordship is full six feet high; he possesses a manly form, with a fine open countenance, and features that denote abundance of good humour.

MAJOR-GENERAL URQUHART.

AMONG the many efficient measures to augment the military force of the British empire during the late war, none was more useful than the establishment of the fencible regiments, whose important services deserve the highest praise. The officers, as well as men, instigated by loyalty to their king and nation, stept forward in the hour of necessity, and made a tender of their assistance: foregoing the comforts of private life at home, they embarked for other countries, subjecting themselves to military law, and all the calamities attendant on war.

On every occasion, when employed in actual service, the fencibles exhibited the discipline and bravery of veterans, with the characteristic humanity of Britons. By their exertions in Ireland, his Majesty's crown and dignity were supported, our glorious constitution preserved, and a dangerous insurrection crushed. The present ministers have on many occasions paid them the highest compliments, particularly Mr.

Addington in the last session of the late parliament, who said that "they had an imperious claim on the gratitude of the imperial parliament for their meritorious services;" and the secretary at war, on presenting the bill for the army of reserve, in the month of June of the present year (1803,) observed, "that their services were of so gallant and important a nature, as to entitle them to the highest notice." The celebrity they obtained was in a great measure owing to the appointment of old and good officers to the command of them; among that number was the subject of the following pages, whose services during a period of forty years, merit a place in a work dedicated to the encouragement of talents and virtue.

Major-general James Edward Urquhart is a native of Scotland, of the ancient family of that name. He embraced the profession of arms, when only fifteen years of age, as an ensign in the fourteenth regiment of foot, in April 1763; obtained a lieutenancy in the same during the following year, and in December 1772, got the rank of captain, at which time he was actively employed on the expedition against the Caribbs in the island of St. Vincent.

During the course of that disagreeable war, he behaved with great prudence and discretion, and well merited the commendations of the commander in chief, the present General William Dalrymple, lieutenant governor of Chelsea Hospital.

On the commencement of the American contest, Captain Urquhart served with his regiment in Boston, and

and was appointed in 1775 to the very important and arduous office of town-major, which he executed with great credit to himself, until the place was evacuated in March 1776; nor ought it to be omitted that he was present at the bloody action of Bunker's-Hill, in June 1775.

In 1777, the fourteenth regiment having suffered greatly, returned to England, and as soon as recruited, served on board the grand fleet, under Lord Howe. At the memorable relief of Gibraltar, in April 1781, Captain Urquhart was on board the Duke of ninety-eight guns, Captain Sir Charles Douglas, afterwards an admiral; with that excellent officer he remained during the space of eighteen months, and lived ever after in habits of the greatest intimacy and friendship with him.

In May 1781, he at length obtained the majority of the regiment, and went out with it in the beginning of the following year, at which time he had the command, as a reinforcement to the troops in Jamaica. General Sir Archibald Campbell, whose honourable services and superior talents will be always remembered by the British army, was at that period governor and commander in chief. He not only took great notice of Major Urquhart, but nominated him commandant of the garrison of Port Royal, and captain of Fort Charles. At the peace in 1783, both these appointments were struck off, and two years after this, the major returned to England on his private affairs, soon after which, he went on the half-pay list:

notwithstanding this, in 1790, he obtained the rank of lieutenant-colonel by brevet.

On the commencement of hostilities in 1793, Lieutenant-Colonel Urquhart made an offer of a regiment, but as a number of senior officers had made similar proposals, his proposition was not accepted; however, in the course of the following year, he was offered a letter of service to raise a body of fencibles, which he accepted of, and called it the *Loyal Essex*. It was dated the 25th of October, 1794, and took rank of all the English and Scotch fencibles of the same date, near thirty in number.

With this corps he repaired to Ireland, in May 1795, where by its good conduct, strict discipline, and great gallantry on every occasion, it contributed in the most essential manner to crush rebellion and counteract the machinations of the united Irishmen, during the space of near four years, that he commanded in the counties of Fermanagh and Donegal.

During the summer of 1795, the regiment was encamped at Laughlinstown near Dublin, and the following winter in the barracks of that city, where Colonel Urquhart was second in command of the garrison. On the 21st of August this year, he was promoted to the rank of colonel in the army by brevet.

From Dublin, the regiment went to Enniskillen, during the spring of 1796. Owing to his spirited exertions in the north of Ireland, at a very critical period, in the winter of 1797-8, he was seized with a severe illness, which ended in a mortification of his

left

left foot, and was near proving fatal. During the whole of this indisposition, he exhibited a degree of patience and fortitude which seldom fall to the lot of man. While in this state, he was promoted to the rank of major-general, on the 18th of January 1798.

When the French landed in August that year at Virtala, under General Humbert, although still in a convalescent state, General Urquhart voluntarily remained, without receiving any emolument whatsoever, in the command of the county of Donegal, until their surrender. The garrison of Ballyshannon, an important pass, and, indeed, the key to the north of Ireland, was at this period entrusted to the care of a small detachment of the Loyal Essex, and some yeomanry; the remainder of the regiment was ordered to oppose the French and rebels, in the county of Mayo. So much was General Urquhart esteemed, that the catholic and protestant inhabitants, to the amount of near one thousand men, waited on him and offered to act in any manner he might think proper against the common enemy. No instance of a proposition to this extent, was made in any other part of the kingdom, and so favourably was it received, that on submitting their address to government, arms were ordered to be delivered to the general, for the purpose of arming such zealous loyalists.

The peace of the sister kingdom being now in a great measure restored, during the latter end of September, he left the regiment and returned to England, for being a general officer, and not employed on the

staff, he could not serve under a junior, which would have been the case, had he remained. After the peace of Amiens, the Loyal Essex, in common with all the fencibles, was ordered to England, and on landing at Bristol, in July 1802, this battalion was disbanded.

On the breaking out of the present war, the general again presented his sword, and proposed, if necessary, to raise a regiment, but as it was not then determined to issue letters of service for regular corps, it has not been accepted of.

General Urquhart has been twice married; his first wife was daughter to the Hon. Thomas Thicker, his Majesty's secretary and a member of the council of the province of Massachuset's Bay; by whom he had one son. In 1787 he was divorced from his lady, since which he became united to Elizabeth, the second daughter of Samuel Cockerell, Esq. of Harwich in Essex.

As a military man, General Urquhart has always been looked upon as an excellent officer, well acquainted with discipline, the customs, and the interior œconomy of the army, of which his late regiment exhibited the most convincing proofs. His private character may be summed up in a few words; he is charitable without ostentation, generous without profuseness, liberal in his ideas, steadfast in his friendships, and rigidly a man of his word.

MAJOR

MAJOR RENNEL.

THE office of the biographer must be allowed to be often peculiarly difficult, and not unfrequently accompanied with the most unpleasant sensations. He is obliged to yield, in some measure, to the prevailing opinions of the day, to deal out censure with a sparing hand, and to treat even vice itself with a certain degree of delicacy. But the task is pleasant, when subjects such as the present engage his attention; and the profession of arms is accompanied and illustrated by a profound knowledge of the arts and sciences.

The family of Rennel is of French extraction, and, though suffering like others from the vicissitudes of fortune, was of high repute in the earlier part of our annals. The name is mentioned in ancient records as belonging to one of the Norman knights who accompanied William the Conqueror; and although we will not venture to assert that the subject of the present memoir is descended from this stock, it is certain that our heralds are accustomed to assume the pedigrees of our nobility from documents not more authentic. Suffice it to say, that the tradition of the family enumerates this Norman knight as one of its members.

The father of the major was settled at Chudleigh, in Devonshire, and possessed a property sufficient for the enjoyments of private life, if not equal to the luxuries of a metropolis. This gentleman was of a character which by the inhabitant of a city will be thought singular,

singular, although of frequent occurrence elsewhere. Possessed of an active and vigorous mind, and having the usual leisure attached to independent circumstances, together with the solitude of a country life, he contracted a passion for reading; but his education being merely that of an English provincial school, he studied with more avidity than discrimination. He had thus collected a mass of miscellaneous matter, of Gentleman's Magazines and old divinity, of voyages and church history, of translations of classic authors, periodical papers, and political pamphlets of the last century. We mention this, as it will be seen in the course of this biography that the character of the son is not without some resemblance to that of the father, and doubtless received its peculiar bias from this circumstance.

Major Rennel was born in the year 1742, at Chudleigh, the place of his father's residence. He received no other education than that of a free grammar school, in the neighbourhood of the paternal mansion, and unfortunately did not remain long enough there to derive all the advantage it might have conferred. It can never be sufficiently lamented that the studies of this gentleman were so circumscribed: having built so much upon such a narrow basis, what might not have been expected from his talents had they been cultivated in early life at Westminster or Eton, and then removed to the genial soils of Oxford or Cambridge?

The circumstances of the father rendering the son's speedy settlement in life necessary, at the age of fifteen

teen he entered the naval service. He is said to have greatly distinguished himself at the siege of Pondicherry, and to have afforded upon this occasion the first symptom of his peculiar bent of mind. Some sloops of war belonging to the enemy having moored beyond the reach of our guns, in shallow water, Mr. Rennel requested of the captain of his ship the use of a boat, which, as the night was far advanced, was at first refused; but the young midshipman repeating his importunity, and being a general favourite, the commander at length consented. Mr. Rennel accordingly departed, no one knew whither, and accompanied, according to his desire, by only a single sailor. After some interval he returned, and eagerly informed the captain that having observed that the tide was unusually high, he thought that there might be sufficient depth of water to reach the sloops of the enemy; and that he had borrowed the boat to make the experiment, which had fully answered his conjecture. Having implored his superior officer to lose no time in availing himself of this discovery, the former complied, and the attempt was crowned with the most complete success.

In the year 1766 Mr. Rennel, by the advice of a friend, who possessed considerable interest in the India-house, quitted the navy and entered into the army. He was immediately sent upon active service to India, and in his capacity of officer of engineers distinguished himself greatly. He was accordingly countenanced by the government, and almost instantly,

stantly, at least long before the natural course of military promotion, advanced to the rank of major.

It was at this period that he appeared before the public as an author, and one of the first geographers of the day, in his "Chart of the Bank and Current of Cape Lagullas." We have not seen this work, which being only of local utility, and consequently local interest, has, we believe, not been published in England; but it is said to be no less accurate and ingenious than every thing which has proceeded from him at a subsequent period.

The government of India becoming daily more sensible of his worth, and more acquainted with his peculiar talent, appointed him to an office for which he was singularly adapted, that of surveyor-general of Bengal; an office the emoluments of which were adequate to the labour and skill required in the discharge of its functions.

It was at this period that he published his "Bengal Atlas." The learned had scarcely time to estimate the value of that accurate and elaborate work, before it was followed by "An Account of the Ganges and Burrampooter Rivers." This account is given at length in the Philosophical Transactions, to which we must beg leave to refer our readers, as a minute enumeration of it does not suit the nature of general biography. Suffice it to say, that it added much, in the esteem of all learned men, to the reputation of its author.

Our indefatigable countryman now rested a while from

from his labours, being engaged in a more pleasing task, that of consulting his domestic happiness. His choice fixed upon Miss Thackeray, one of the daughters of the Rev. Dr. Thackeray, many years head master of Harrow school. The major was as successful in this as in his other pursuits, and after a proper interval received the hand of the lady. Shortly after this union, which took place in India, he returned to England, and was received by the learned of this country with that distinction which he had so justly merited. His acquaintance was courted by the most eminent men of the day, and he was elected, with an unanimity and ardour like that of acclamation, a fellow of the Royal Society.

A work which he published immediately upon his return, entitled "A Memoir of a Map of Hindostan," introduced him to the friendship of the present Bishop of St. Asaph, at that time Bishop of St. David's, and also to the present Dean of Westminster. From that period to the present this friendship has continued, and each has occasionally assisted the other in his literary labours.

Major Rennel was likewise the intimate friend of the late Sir William Jones, and aided him, with all his characteristic ardour, in his oriental collections. Many of the best articles in the Asiatic Researches and Registers are from the pen of the major, though for some cause, which we cannot pretend to conjecture, they are not all subscribed with his signature. The following short passage in one of these must give almost general pleasure, and raise the character of the subject

subject of this memoir in the opinion of the pious, no less than of the truly learned: "With regard to the conformity between some of the Christian and Indian doctrines, I have no hesitation to assert that all examination into Indian history and antiquities *most strongly* confirms the mosaic and scriptural accounts."

The major continues to proceed in his literary and geographical pursuits, and almost annually presents the public with some fruit of his industry and study. It is said that he received an invitation during the late short interval of peace from the national Institute of France to become one of its members, but which honour he was induced by his political principles to decline.

In the year 1798 he assisted Mr. Park in the arrangement of his African Travels, and added a most accurate and able map, illustrative of the route of that incomparable traveller. In this work he has admirably ascertained the course of the Niger and Senegal rivers, and the map which accompanies it has been justly considered as one of the most accurate and most ingenious of his many geographical productions.

Mr. Park has determined, from ocular observation, the long disputed question of the course of the Niger, and after the lapse of upwards of two thousand years, has confirmed the assertion of Herodotus, that this river flows from west to east across the immense continent of Africa. Major Rennel in his map follows the route of Mr. Park, through each day's journey, compares the observations of that gentleman with those

those of other travellers and geographers, and points out what has been done, and remains to be done, with the most elaborate accuracy.

In this work the major also examines a question of equal difficulty and interest, what becomes of the vast body of water of the Niger after the termination of its course? It had been hitherto supposed to flow into the Nile; but he proves this opinion to be false, by the circumstance of the level of the Niger being upwards of ten feet below that of the Nile. Having thus answered this supposition, he proceeds, assisted by the observations of Mr. Park, to prove the continuity of the Niger to the broad lake of Wangara, "where (says he) I have no hesitation to assert that, from its being spread out to so great an extent of surface, it loses itself by gradual evaporation."

The major here likewise corrects an error with regard to Africa, into which even D'Anville, the most accurate of geographers, had fallen; for he shews the coast of Guinea has many degrees more of extent from east to west than has been generally supposed. In fine, his share in this work, and in that of the "Proceedings of the African Association," though of but a few sheets in extent, is, in the words of his most learned friend the Dean of Westminster, "no less admirable for its elaborate accuracy than for its characteristic clearness."

But the great work which proclaims Major Rennel the first geographer in Europe, is his "Geographical System of Herodotus;" a production the learning of which is only equalled by the utility.

Though

Though the merit of Herodotus, as one of the best and most ancient of the classic historians, has been confirmed, beyond the reach of modern detraction, by the concurring judgment of successive ages, he has still not wholly escaped the malignity of criticism; but has been accused, in common with others of equal reputation, of credulity and extravagant exaggeration, of knowing only the generality of his subject, and supplying his want of knowledge of the particulars by invention and conjecture. Stephens was the first who undertook his defence against these imputations; but Stephens was a better commentator than either an historian or geographer. He accordingly produced such a work as might have been expected from him; a work inaccurate in its geography, and with regard to the historical part, rendering "confusion worse confounded." It remained for Major Rennel to come forward and vindicate his favourite author.

This he has fully and ably effected, with an ingenuity peculiar to himself; with learning equalled by industry, he has proved Herodotus to be not only generally, but even in his minutest detail strictly accurate, and that he has merely been thought erroneous because ill understood. Every succeeding discovery is proved by Major Rennel, to confirm the ability and veracity of this ancient historian. He forcibly observes, that the imputations against him, upon the score of veracity, arise rather from the negligence of his readers than from the error of the historian. "Herodotus (says he) sometimes speaks of what he actually describes himself to have seen, and sometimes

sometimes relates what he professes only to have heard. He does not undertake geometrically to define actual distances and dimensions; but his account of relative positions is important, and generally true. His errors have been copied by every succeeding geographer down to Pliny."

This work is distinguished by the two great characteristic qualities of the author, that of elaborate accuracy, and a most incomparable perspicuity, both in respect to explanation and discussion. The general style of language and argument is wholly colloquial, and he appears less in the character of a writer, than that of a well-informed mind disburdening itself in conversation. His enquiry into the circus of the ancient city of Babylon displays his talent of investigation: on this occasion he corrects an error even of the learned, who have assigned to the space inclosed within the walls what he ably proves an impossible extent. With equal learning, and equal accuracy, he has fixed the positions of most of the people mentioned by the profane historian.

In the last chapter of this work the major endeavours to illustrate and to confirm the credit of the most ancient voyage in the world, that of Hanno. In the modern island of Arquin he recognizes the antient Cerne; and Mount Sarges, he says, can be no other than the one mentioned by Hanno, under the name of the Chariot of the Gods. It is impossible in a general biography to examine this learned work with critical detail; it is sufficient to say that it has well accomplished its purpose, that of confirming and

illustrating the geography of Herodotus, and elucidating, amidst the corruptions of so many centuries, antient names and positions. In its research it is, as we have above said, elaborate; in assertion, modest; in conjecture, unusually ingenious; and in language and style of argument, colloquial almost to carelessness.

Such is this great work, which has received the just tribute of general applause, and has added to the reputation of its author, no less in his own than in foreign countries. If any thing can add to our admiration, it is the circumstance that Major Rennel, however learned in geography and ancient usages, is absolutely ignorant of the language of Herodotus, and according to his own confession, was under the necessity of availing himself of the translation of Mr. Beloe. Such is the effect of a natural vigour of mind, which perseveres through every obstacle to the final attainment of its end.

During the intervals occasionally afforded by this great work, Major Rennel found leisure to assist his friend, the present Dean of Westminster, in his celebrated and elaborate production, "The Voyage of Nearchus." Greater powers never united towards the attainment of the same end than in this learned work; part of it being written by the Bishop of St. Asaph, and the remainder the joint production of the profound learning of Dr. Vincent and the genius of Major Rennel. It can never be enough lamented that this coalition of the industry and talents of some of the most eminent men in modern times, has not been

been received by the public with that ardour of encouragement which it so well merits, and which is necessary to animate others to similar efforts. And it must be added, that this reproach peculiarly belongs to our own country, every kingdom and public academy in Europe, with the exception of our own, having been liberal in their tribute of honours to the illustrators of the navigation of Nearchus.

It may not be needless to inform the reader, that this work is founded upon the journal of Nearchus himself as preserved, at least in its greater part, by Arrian. The object of the learned authors is to illustrate that monument of antient navigation. This voyage was made in the year before Christ 326, commencing from Nicea, and, in an explanatory memoir of the major, is said to consist of three parts: from Nicea to the mouth of the Indus; from the mouth of the Indus to Cape Jask, upon the maritime confines of Persia; and the passage up the Persian Gulph. It will be seen that a commentary upon a voyage of this extent must comprehend the whole system of antient geography. The learned illustrators have well discharged their task. From the eastern branch of the Indus to the western mouth of the Tigris, every thing is elucidated with equal industry and success. It has been unjustly objected to this work, that the discussion of geographical difficulties was better suited to the appendix than the text, and that it at present is something of an unconnected mass, where every thing is indeed at the same time valuable, but

destitute of that order and harmony so necessary to keep alive the interest in its perusal.

But this objection can only arise from the error of confounding books of science with those of more general literature: the first are addressed to the reason, the latter to our curiosity. It would be ludicrous to object to Euclid, that it was impossible to read him with any interest, or that his propositions were not subjects of general curiosity. Nearchus, as a book of science, will long maintain its place in the libraries of the learned; although the general reader who, considering it as a book of voyages, should take it up, after Cook and Hawkesworth, will find himself disappointed, and discover that he has met with a work of a very different description.

From the period of this publication to the present moment Major Rennel has taken some rest from his literary labours. In this interval, however, he has not been wholly idle, the natural vigour of his mind, and the daily application of all the learned academies in Europe, not suffering his talents to rust in absolute inactivity. Scarcely has a work of any reference to geography been published within these last ten years but what has been submitted to his correction, and none have been returned without due attention.

The detection of the impudent fraud of Damberger's Travels into the interior of Africa was made by the ingenuity of the major. One argument which he employed upon this subject is so strictly characteristic of his geographical readiness and ability, that

we

we here quote it: "Mr. Damberger arrives at Kahoratho, and here sees a canal which is conducted from the river Gambia. Now Kahoratho happens to be in longitude 42, and Gambia is in longitude 22; the length therefore of this canal must be twenty degrees, or one thousand four hundred miles. Well said, honest friend!"

The major is now rather advanced in years, but from his temperance and habit of exercise still enjoys his health, and appears to suffer little from age. His conversation is full of vivacity and spirit, and he appears never more in his element than in his moments of social intercourse. He supports a literary correspondence with the learned of every kingdom in Europe, and his cabinet contains many testimonies of their esteem and veneration.

In person he is tall and well made, with a countenance no less expressive of dignity and sentiment than of general benevolence. His reputation, as we have above said, exposes him to almost daily applications from the authors of the day; and, greatly to his credit, he has seldom rejected such requests. His natural frankness is corrected by his habitual politeness; and though he never descends to flatter those who submit to his judgment, he softens the asperity of censure with singular artifice: "My dear Sir, (as he sometimes says) you have consulted an imperfect map; I wish to heaven there was a public licenser of maps and charts. You have been deceived, like myself, in believing no one would undertake a task of the very elements of which he was ignorant; yet such

are the greater part of map-makers." Such is the manner in which this truly amiable man corrects without offence, and amends without wounding the vanity of those who submit themselves to his judgment. We have only to wish him a long continuance of that health and happiness which he so well merits, and at present actually enjoys.

The major has two sons and a daughter now living. Here follows a list of his literary productions:

1. A Chart of the Bank and Current of Cape Lagullas, 1778.
2. A Bengal Atlas, 1781.
3. A Memoir of a Map of Hindostan, or the Mogul's Empire, 1782.
4. A Map of Hindostan, with a new Memoir, 1788.
5. Memoir on the Geography of Africa, with an adjoined Map. 1790.
6. On the Rate of Travelling, as performed by Camels, and its Application, by a Scale, to the Purposes of Geometry, 1791.
7. The Marches of the British Armies in the Peninsula of India during the Campaigns of 1790 and 1791.
8. A Second and Third Memoir on the Geography of Africa, 1798.
9. The Geographical System of Herodotus explained, 1800.
10. A Corrected Sheet Map of the Peninsula of India, of the Mysore Country, and the Cessions of 1798, 1799, and 1800.
11. A Fourth Memoir on African Geography, and a Map of Mr. Horneman's Travels, for the African Association.

12. Observations on the Topography of the Plain of Troy. T. H.

VICE-

VICESIMUS KNOX, D. D.

THIS learned divine, whose rank in the republic of letters has long been pre-eminent, was born at Newington-green, in Middlesex, about the year 1753. His father, the Rev. Vicesimus Knox, LL.B. a fellow of St. John's College, Oxford, and a master of Merchant Taylors' school, was a respectable scholar, a truly worthy man, and in the exercise of his clerical functions, possessed the high esteem of several large congregations in London, who for many years enjoyed the advantage of his instruction. Mr. Knox died at the early age of forty-nine. His only son, the subject of this memoir, became a member of the college in which his father had preceded him, where he pursued his studies with successful diligence, and in due time was elected to a fellowship. He went through a course of reading, which comprehended all the best Greek and Roman classics, and imitated the style of each, in verse and prose, with great felicity. His early compositions in Latin were numerous, and much admired in the college for wit, humour, taste, and purity of diction. The president of St. John's, a man of considerable learning, Dr. Dennis, soon discovered in Mr. Knox those indications of superior genius which were hereafter to shed lustre upon his college. He took every occasion of encouraging him in his studious pursuits, and, as a mark of honourable distinction, together with the other heads of houses, appointed him a

speaker, with Mr. Bragge, the Earl of Dartmouth, Sir George Shuckburgh Evelyn, and others, at the *Encœnia*, when Lord North first presided in person as chancellor of Oxford. Upon that occasion it will be recollected by many that Mr. Knox met with great applause, as well from the manner in which he delivered a copy of Latin verses, as from the merit of the verses themselves, which (contrary to what usually takes place) were known to be the speaker's composition. It was here that he gave an early specimen of those talents of elocution, that have gained him the reputation of one of the first pulpit orators of the age, and of that taste which has placed him among the most celebrated of our *belles lettres* writers. Before he left the university, and previous to his bachelor's degree, he composed several essays as college exercises, for the sake of improvement; and (as we are informed in the preface) when they accumulated to a number sufficient to make a volume, he debated a moment whether he should commit them to the flames, or send them (as a present) without a name to a London publisher. The last deliberation prevailed; the collection was transmitted to Mr. Edward Dilly, by whom the volume was published anonymously in 1777, under the title of "Essays Moral and Literary," royal octavo. The success of this volume was great, but unquestionably not more than its desert. A second edition was soon called for, and the author was induced not only to add another volume, but also to prefix his name. These essays, written in a forcible and elegant style, formed on the finest models of ancient Greece and Rome, contain most valuable directions

rections for the cultivation of the understanding, and the conduct of life. What serves also to recommend them still more to many, is the rich fund of classical and miscellaneous entertainment they afford. It is unnecessary to enter into a copious detail of the great merits of this work; the public opinion having been so decidedly expressed in its favour, that few books are more generally known and approved. The style is masterly, and if (sometimes a little Johnsonian, yet an accurate judge will perceive that it has the nerve of Johnson without the pomposity. There is a happy mixture of the best style of our English writers with those of Plato, Xenophon, and Cicero, in whose writings the author appears to have been daily conversant during the most susceptible part of life. Notwithstanding the long interval that has elapsed since the first publication, and the consequent general diffusion of the essays, still the book circulates widely, and a large impression has lately been printed in three volumes 12mo. which completes the fifteenth edition. They have besides been reprinted in Ireland, and have gone through many editions in various European languages.

From college, after having regularly taken the degrees of bachelor and master of arts, Mr. Knox was elected in the year 1778 master of Tunbridge school, over which seminary he continues to preside, and from which he has sent to various parts of the world many learned, virtuous, and highly esteemed members of society. About this time he married a lady, distinguished by her superior understanding and peculiar

culiar elegance of manners, the daughter of Mr. Miller, a surgeon of great respectability at Tunbridge, and thus vacated his fellowship at Oxford. His family consist of two sons and a daughter. His eldest son is a student of the Inner Temple, and will shortly be called to the bar; his younger is a member of Brazenose College, at present so famous for its well-regulated discipline. Shortly after his marriage he accepted the degree of doctor of divinity, conferred upon him by diploma from Philadelphia, without solicitation, in the handsomest manner, as a compliment for the benefit America had derived from his incomparable Essays, which were very popular there.

Dr. Knox next appeared to the world as an author, by publishing his celebrated treatise on "Liberal Education;" a subject which, of course, must at this period have much engrossed his attention. It is not easy to determine whether this treatise or the Essays conferred most honour upon the author: its reception was equally favourable in this and in foreign countries. It is certain, however, that this truly excellent work displays a depth of learning, an ingenuity of argument, and a soundness of judgment, not equalled in any other work upon the exhausted subject of education. The writings of contemporary authors, and of literary journals at home and abroad, abound in eulogiums of its merit. In this treatise, however, Dr. Knox evinced that independence of sentiment which, though highly honourable to his character, has contributed through life to the injury of his worldly interests. In pointing out the glaring defects in the education

education of youth, he could not consistently pass over the gross abuses in the discipline of his university. Abuse at Oxford had taken such fast hold by long continuance, that it required the strongest exposition to effect any reformation; Dr. Knox, therefore, arraigned it with all the force of ridicule, learning, and argument combined, and did not content himself with adducing merely general charges, but entered with a minute precision of enquiry into the sources of the corruptions which prevailed, so injurious to the whole nation. Whether in his ardent zeal for the promotion of learning, and the improvement of the rising generation, he might not have been hurried in one or two instances beyond the strict limit of candour, is now not worthy of enquiry, since beyond all question the public at large, as well as the university itself, lie under infinite obligations to him for having caused many improvements, which, since his representations were published, have been made in the discipline of Oxford. This work was universally read, and the Oxonians were extremely galled by the celebrity with which it was received, not only in Britain, but through Europe and America. In a subsequent edition the author subjoined a letter to Lord North, chancellor of the university of Oxford. Being hopeless of doing any good in his place as a member of the academical senate, the author adopted this mode of address, with a view of exciting the chancellor's attention to the abuses which he there enumerated. The evils specified in this letter were so palpable, that it is surprising any thing like an apology for them should have

have been suffered to appear from the public press of the university. Yet so it was, from the university press issued "A Letter to the Rev. Vicesimus Knox, on the Subject of his Animadversions on the University of Oxford, by a resident Member of that University." Report at the time gave this furious, declamatory, but weak and affected performance, to a college tutor of no mean reputation; but it was soon found and acknowledged, even in the university itself, that he rather injured the cause than supported it. The writer loads Dr. Knox with abuse, and blinds his readers, at least the uninformed part of them, with a pompous parade of the advantages attending the number of professors in Oxford; when he must have known that however respectable those learned men were as individuals, yet few of them read lectures, and fewer still attended those who did. Happily, however, the strictures of our author have been attended to by the university itself, however haughty and prejudiced against a young man's censures, and the abuses in many instances have been diminished, and in some done away. A stricter discipline has taken place, a new arrangement of academical studies, and more diligence both on the part of the professors and the students. No person can obtain his degrees without having attended the lectures; and particularly, the bishops will not admit any to holy orders unless they bring testimonials of their having regularly attended the lectures of the regius professor in divinity. A new statute has been recently made at Oxford, which there is reason to believe owes its origin

to

to Dr. Knox's strictures, though many will (of course) be unwilling to own in public the painful obligation.

About the year 1787 Dr. Knox published a series of miscellaneous papers, under the title of "Winter Evenings," &c. three volumes octavo. They have gone through three editions; and though they have not experienced so universal a circulation as the two former productions of this author, they equally abound in fine writing and excellent moral instruction, and afford a richly diversified store of elegant entertainment.

For the purpose of facilitating the education of youth, Dr. Knox has devoted much labour, and evinced considerable learning and judgment, in various books which he has edited for the use of schools. Those who are engaged in conducting education have long wished for new impressions of several of those editions now out of print, particularly the Juvenal and Horace, which Dr. Knox published upon the *expurgata* plan; the advantages of which plan are ably detailed in the preface to Juvenal, which on several accounts is an interesting *morceau*. "The Elegant Extracts," in prose and verse; "Family Lectures, or, a Collection of Sermons," in two large volumes octavo; and "Elegant Epistles," though compilations merely, have nevertheless conferred no small credit upon the editor, for his judicious selection and arrangement, and for the extensive utility of his plan. The prefaces to the Extracts in verse and the second volume of the divinity Collection have been much admired.

In his zeal to preserve subordination in England,

on

on the downfall of the aristocracy in France, Dr. Knox published a work entitled "Personal Nobility," containing advice, in a series of letters, to a young nobleman on the conduct of his studies, and the best means of maintaining the dignity of the peerage. This work is written in the highest strain of nervous eloquence, and abounds in wise precepts. It is fraught with constitutional opinions, enforced in a manner which the times required. It is now become extremely scarce. Report has stated that it procured to the author the marked approbation of the most distinguished whigs, who from that time have esteemed him one of the sincerest and ablest champions of the constitution as consisting of King, Lords, and Commons. The generous and manly spirit which it breathes might, on the other hand, give offence to parasites and sycophants, and thus obstruct its circulation, and its author's preferment.

In 1793 an event occurred in the life of Dr. Knox, which has been the subject of much misrepresentation. A sermon which he preached at Brighton, at a period when the country was in a general ferment in consequence of the French revolution, gave offence to some obscure persons, militia officers of inferior note, whose very names were not discovered, but who in a most unmanly way shewed their resentment by making a riot at the theatre, to which the doctor had accompanied his lady and family of young children a few nights afterwards. The immediate subject of this celebrated sermon, as appears from a statement and some letters which he published

published from third persons who were present at it, among which is one from the late worthy curate of Brighton, was, that "*offensive war is a high crime against humanity and christianity.*" No allusion, it is stated by them, was made to the measures pursuing in this country. The sermon was certainly more in opposition to the spirit prevailing in France than here, notwithstanding at that period many in England were sanguine and sanguinary enough to hope to realize the march to Paris which the ministers then in power held out. It was agreed, however, on all hands, that a more eloquent discourse never was delivered from the pulpit, and indeed few have been so famous since the days of Dr. Sacheverel's. The composition was elegant, the matter indisputably loyal and constitutional, strongly impressive from its classical style, and the peculiar energy, propriety, and harmony which are known to distinguish the preacher's elocution.

The good-natured contempt with which Dr. Knox treated this unpleasant business, could only have proceeded from a great mind, and a most amiable disposition. It justly excited general esteem. He followed up the subject of the sermon by giving to the world a translation of Erasmus's celebrated treatise upon war, *Bellum dulce inexpertis*, inserted among his adages. To Erasmus's excellent reasoning he superadded the glowing language of his own eloquence: critically considered, this is one of the best translations that has ever appeared; and as an argument, it is unanswerable. The translator gave this tract the title of "*Antipolemus.*"

From

From this period Dr. Knox seems to have devoted his few leisure hours from his school to the more momentous branch of his profession, divinity. A volume of "Sermons, *upon Faith, Hope, and Charity*," appeared in 1794; they display warm piety, are written in a style of most impressive exhortation, and have met (contrary to the usual fate of sermons of the present day) with a very favourable reception. His zeal for the established church, and his opinions upon the Trinity, which consistently with his orthodox principles he strenuously maintains, brought down upon him the direct attacks of the most distinguished unitarians, and the insidious opposition of many members of the establishment, whose tenets upon this leading point in the articles of the church are heterodoxical.*

To stem the torrent of infidelity, much increased at this time by Mr. Paine's pernicious writings, Dr. Knox published "Christian Philosophy," in two volumes 12mo. in 1796. This work and the next and last we have to notice, prove the author to possess profound theological learning. Many of Paine's fallacies are completely exposed; but the doctrine, however, that it mainly supports has been the ground of much controversy on the part of the enemies and lukewarm friends of the establishment, though certainly most expressly founded on the articles and homilies of the church. The opponents of the doctrine of *grace* have not only to contend with our author (no inconsiderable adversary), but with the most ju-

* See Dr. Disney's Letter to Dr. Knox, and several publications of socinians and other heterodoxical writers in and out of the church, which have lately appeared.

dicious

dicious and orthodox writers of former times as well as of the present.*

"Considerations on the Nature and Efficacy of the Lord's Supper" was published in 1800. This excellent treatise has been equally well received with Dr. Knox's other theological writings. It proves most ingeniously and learnedly the important truth that "*benefits are annexed to the reception of the eucharist*," in opposition to the opinions advanced on this subject by Bishops Hoadley and Pearce, Drs. Sykes, Balguy, and Bell. That able polemical divine, Dr. Horseley, Bishop of St. Asaph, speaks of this work in the following words in the last charge he delivered to his diocese of Rochester:

"It is with much satisfaction I recommend to your perusal a work not long since published upon this sublime subject, by a learned divine of this diocese (Dr. Knox), under the title of "Considerations on the Nature and Efficacy of the Lord's Supper." I have requested the reverend author to reduce it to a form and size fit for general dispersion among the laity, which I mean to recommend. Meanwhile it highly deserves the attention of the profession, to whose particular use it is perhaps better adapted in its present shape than in one more popular; and it is no inconsiderable monument of the learning and piety of the writer."†

The reader will, at the close of our account of this

* Drs. Gloucester Ridley, Isaac Barrow, Scott, Lucas, Townson, &c.; Bishops Taylor, Sanderson, Bull, Pearson, Secker, Horne, Horseley, &c.; not to mention that the writer of this memoir has been told by one of the most distinguished prelates now living, who bestowed warm commendation upon this book, that he read it to his family, for their improvement, on Sunday evenings.

† See the Bishop of Rochester's Charge, page 28. Robson, 1800.

celebrated scholar and divine, expect a list of the benefices and dignities he holds as retributions for these various and highly useful labours in the service of the public we have thus cursorily enumerated; but he will be affected equally with surprize and regret to learn, that this steady defender of the church establishment, this able and strenuous advocate in the cause of religion, virtue, social order, civil government, learning, and every thing that renders life amiable or valuable, has never had any preferment bestowed upon him except the curacy of a little village, if it may be called preferment, which he has constantly supplied for a pittance ever since he was ordained by Bishop Lowth, at Christ Church, in Oxford, about 1777! Instances of the neglect of such merit as Dr. Knox's tempt us to exclaim with the poet,

"That Parson knows enough who knows a Duke."

We have, however, the satisfaction to add, that by his own successful industry Dr. Knox is in very easy circumstances; and he has, moreover, in private life, the happiness to enjoy the unbounded esteem of a highly respectable acquaintance.

From what has been here impartially detailed it will appear, that there is no author now living whose works have been more extensively diffused; and, as it has been observed by a very distinguished character, "every page of Dr. Knox's writings is in favour of virtue, religion, learning, and whatever is conducive to the welfare and stability of church and state."

JOHN

JOHN RANDOLPH, D. D.

LORD BISHOP OF OXFORD,

AND REGIUS PROFESSOR OF DIVINITY IN THAT UNIVERSITY.

THIS learned and distinguished prelate was born, as Anthony Wood would have quaintly expressed it, in the *lap of the Muses*, about the year 1750. His father, Thomas Randolph, D. D. president of Corpus Christi College, was a divine of great eminence, and a very able controversialist. He published several polemical pieces, chiefly levelled against the oppugners of the Athanasian doctrine of the Trinity.

The present Bishop of Oxford, in his primary charge to his clergy, in 1802, thus affectionately records his early and continued connection with that see :

" Being entrusted with the care of a diocese known to me by long experience, and endeared by long attachment, in which I passed my very infancy, and in which also I received a great part of my education ; having held in the same almost every inferior office in the church, as those of curate, rector, and canon of its cathedral ; having passed through almost every kind of employment in that university, which gives to this diocese a distinguished and almost peculiar character, it may be expected that I should betake myself on this my first occasion of meeting you, to appropriate and local considerations," &c.

At an early period of his life he was placed at Westminster school, where he made a considerable progress in classical learning, and was chosen King's scholar. At the usual age he was elected to Christ Church, Oxford, and was made student of that college the Christmas following, according to the general custom. While an under-graduate he conducted

himself with a great deal of propriety and regularity, and gained the respect of the society to which he belonged. His abilities were soon discovered to be of a more than ordinary stamp, and his quickness of parts and acquisitions of various kinds of knowledge were his only recommendation to the governors of his college, whose favour he did not fail to obtain. Soon after he had commenced bachelor of arts, he was appointed one of the sub-librarians of Christ Church, and was probably employed at the same time in private tuition. However that might be, he gave up a great deal of his time to close study, and attained a very extensive knowledge of the learned languages. Having taken the degree of master of arts, he became one of the public tutors of the college, in which office he exerted himself with a laudable diligence, labouring as much to render his instructions and lectures pleasing and attractive, as he did to make his pupils accurate and well-grounded scholars. His industry in this department was by no means unsuccessful, and many persons of eminence and distinction have to thank him for a material part of their education. In a short time he was appointed rhetoric reader and also censor of the college, the last of which offices he held for many years, during several of which he had for his colleague Dr. William Jackson, now canon of Christ Church, and younger brother of Dean Jackson.

While censor of Christ Church he went through the offices of pro-proctor and proctor in the university, in which he conducted himself with great impartiality

tiality and lenity. Upon a vacancy in the poetry professorship, he offered himself as a candidate, and was elected almost unanimously. His terminal lectures were much admired, and exceedingly well attended, though never committed to the press. Bishop Lowth's "*Lectiones Sacrâ Poesi Hebræorum*" form a specimen of those lectures which are delivered by every professor of poetry, and are perhaps the best which were ever read before the university; though it was thought by some admirers of those delivered by Bishop Randolph, that his were little inferior to them. About this time he published an elegant Latin composition in praise of the Greek language, and of the antient Greek authors, particularly the poets, which was well received in the university.

Dr. Randolph was first instituted to a living in Oxfordshire of inconsiderable value, and afterwards raised to a canonry of Christ Church, with the regius professorship of divinity attached to it, in the year 1783. We cannot say to whom entirely he owed this preferment; but it is generally supposed he was favoured by the interest of the Buckingham family.

In 1785 he married Miss Lambard, daughter of the late Thomas Lambard, esq. of Sevenoaks, Kent, in whom he has found every qualification which tends to make the marriage state happy and desirable. She is a person of eminent piety, and has been the mother of six children, one of which, Cyril, died about three years ago; he was a promising child, and

had been named after his sponsor Dean Jackson, who was almost as inconsolable as his parents at the circumstance of his death.

On the death of Dr. Smallwell, in 1789, the vacant bishopric was offered to the dean of Christ Church, who declined that honour. Lord Grenville, however, it is understood, complimented the dean with requesting that if he did not choose to accept the episcopal chair himself, he would recommend a proper person for it; in consequence of which Dr. Jackson mentioned his friend the professor, who was accordingly advanced to that dignity.

The worth of the regius professorship of divinity, which is attached to Bishop Randolph's canonry, is not very considerable; and in consequence of it a great deal of responsibility devolves upon him; no member of the university of Oxford can enter into holy orders in the establishment, unless he produces a certificate of his attendance at these lectures of the professor, which are delivered three times a week during the whole of Michaelmas Term, and the former part of Lent Term, and in which he treats summarily upon all the several heads of divinity, interweaving such instructions and directions as he judges most proper.

His lordship has ranged himself with his right reverend brethren of Lincoln, Bangor, and others, in opposing those clergymen who profess to hold Calvinistic doctrines, and are distinguished by the appellation of gospel preachers and evangelical ministers. In the latter part of his charge to the clergy, before referred to, he decries their principles and practice with great

great strength, and ranks "the mischievous effects of their preaching next in malignity to those of infidelity itself." We forbear to give any opinion upon the subject.

The Bishops of Oxford and Lincoln, however, have lately had a dispute concerning certain parishes which are situated in the diocese of the former, and entirely out of his jurisdiction, and are called peculiars. It is very well known that Oxfordshire originally formed part of the diocese of Lincoln, in consequence of which several of its parishes are still properly appendages of that diocese. We understand, however, that Bishop Randolph wished that his brother of Lincoln would give up his right of ecclesiastical jurisdiction in them, which the other peremptorily refused to do; and in consequence some unpleasant circumstances ensued. The Bishop of Oxford, though probably without just reason, considered himself as much aggrieved in this affair, and complained publicly thereof to his clergy in the following terms: "Of this I must complain that ecclesiastical persons or bodies high in dignity and office in any episcopal church should refuse to bring the question before the legal tribunal in an amicable and summary way, and in a mode pointed out by the advice of the best lawyers, and should throw every obstruction in the way of the assertion of the right on my part. Of this I do complain, and lament that the case has happened."*

* See Charge, published in 1807.

In consequence of the publication of Theological Tracts, by the regius professor of divinity in the university of Cambridge, which was said to contain sentiments by no means orthodox, it was judged necessary for the Bishop of Oxford, as divinity professor there, to publish something in opposition to it, which might be supposed to contain the sentiments of that university; accordingly his "*Enchiridion Theologica*" appeared some time ago before the public, and it is a very useful selection from the writings of the most approved divines of the church of England.

The bishop frequently preaches before the university, and is generally well attended. His style is clear and perspicuous, and his sermons are sensible and learned; his voice, however, is weak, and his manner of delivery not sufficiently energetic to render him an eloquent preacher. We believe he has only spoken once before the house of lords, which was upon the subject of the late "Clergy residence Bill," when he moved that those fellows of colleges who had benefices should be compelled to reside on them, as there was no good reason for their spending so much time in the university; in this he was seconded by a noble lord, who also moved that the prebendaries of Oxford (meaning, as we conjecture, canons of Christ Church), should likewise be obliged to reside upon their benefices, if such they had elsewhere.

Bishop Randolph is a strenuous patron of Westminster school, having imbibed that predilection which almost every one entertains in favour of the place where

where he has received his education. He preached a sermon before the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge the year after the Bishop of Meath had, upon the same occasion, censured the neglect paid to religious instruction in our public schools; and, as far as it was in his power, endeavoured to counteract the effects of that charge.

And in the dispute which happened in the same society on occasion of the Bishop of Meath's note to a sermon preached before them, in which an unqualified charge was exhibited against public schools in general, the Bishop of Oxford proposed that for the future nothing should be added to any printed sermon delivered before that body but what was actually delivered from the pulpit. This motion, though unquestionably just, and well calculated to preserve the honour and peace of the society, was warmly opposed by some members, and as strenuously supported by others; it was, however, carried in the affirmative, and the harmony of that most useful and venerable body was perfectly restored.

His lordship has since been engaged in a controversy with the learned Mr. Marsh, of St. John's College, Cambridge, and the well known translator of *Michaelis*, on the subject of that critic's hypothesis respecting the origin of the four gospels. When the late enlarged and valuable edition of that translation was published, a pamphlet came out anonymously indeed, but universally attributed to the Bishop of Oxford, and not disowned by him, entitled "Cautions to the Readers of *Michaelis*," &c. This performance roused

roused the acute and erudite powers of the translator, who has replied to the author in a series of letters, replete with comprehensive learning, and as strong in argument as they are caustic in language. In the opinion of sound and impartial critics, the fellow of St. John's College has more than an advantage over the King's professor of Oxford.

The bishop has also published a Fast Sermon before the House of Lords, and a Sermon before the Society for propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

J.

APPENDIX,

APPENDIX,

CONSISTING OF

CORRECTIONS, ADDITIONS, AND ENLARGEMENTS OF MEMOIRS

Which have appeared in

FORMER VOLUMES OF THIS WORK.

MISS SEWARD.*

AMONGST the honours of the English nation, is to be enumerated the females of high intellectual attainments, and great natural possessions of mind. The present age is pre-eminently distinguished in this respect; and in no instance more transcendant than in the rare genius and other brilliant endowments of the subject of the following memoir, which we insert in our Appendix to the present work, because a too brief and hasty account found its way into a former volume; and we are by no means unwilling to correct our own precipitation, or the mis-statement of others; and it is with particular satisfaction we collate and adopt more authentic and liberal materials.

Anna Seward is the daughter of the Rev. T. Seward, rector of Eyam, in Derbyshire, prebendary of Salisbury, and canon residentiary of Litchfield; a gentleman of great erudition, and who had passed two years, between thirty and thirty-five, the period of his marriage, in France and Italy with his pupil, Lord Charles Fitzroy, the Duke of Grafton's third son, one of the finest young men in England. His family, and his tutor, in the course of those travels, sustained the severe disappointment of his death by a fever at Rome.

Mr. Seward, to graceful manners added great hilarity of spirit, uncommon singleness of heart, and the most active benevolence. His poetic talents were by no means inconsiderable; and he studied with discriminating taste, in their original language, the Greek, Latin, and English bards. He was known to the world of letters as chief editor of Beaumont and Fletcher's plays, published in the year 1750; also as author of a learned and very ingenious tract on the conformity between paganism and popery, a work of much celebrity, and now

* Of whom a brief notice appeared in our first volume.

scarce.

scarce. To Dodsley's Collection he contributed a few elegant little poems, which may be found in the latter part of the second volume of that valuable miscellany. As they were printed anonymously, it will be pleasing to ascertain the poems of Mr. Seward, by observing they commence with the "Female Right to Literature," written at Florence, and sent from thence to Miss Pratt, afterwards Lady Camden, the *Athenia* of the verse, and extend to the close of the volume. To that succeed some lines of Shakespeare's monument at Stratford, which will not lose by a comparison even with Milton's on the same subject. In the later editions, two of the lines are injured by substituting the word *swain* for the original word *swan*, either from mistake of the press, or from an ill-judged desire in the editor to improve the rhyme, at the expence of ruin to the *sense*; a remark which Mr. Seward himself has often been heard to make. The change destroys the antithesis, and confuses the metaphor.

At the village of Eyam, situated amongst the highest of the Peak mountains, Mr. Seward passed the first eight years of his marriage. In the second his eldest daughter, the subject of these memoirs, was born. She had several sisters, and one brother, of whom all died in their infancy, except the second daughter, who lived till she was nineteen, and then died on the eve of her nuptials; the chosen friend as well as companion of our author's youth; lovely in her person, angelic in her disposition, and the intelligent sharer of her sister's studies: our author's tribute to this lady's memory, and the event that deprived the world of her talents at an early age, is exquisitely tender.

In Miss Seward's seventh year her family removed from Eyam to Litchfield, and in the thirteenth they became inhabitants of the bishop's palace, which remains her home to this hour.

Mrs. Seward, who died at sixty-six, in the year 1780, is said to have been a woman of strong sense, and of extreme beauty,

beauty, a large portion of which she retained to her latest moments. Without taste for literary pursuits, she had never encouraged them in her daughters; for the delight they mutually took in books, they were indebted to their father's early instruction.

Mr. Seward fancying he saw the dawn of poetic genius in his eldest girl, amused himself with its culture, though not from any idea or desire that she should ever become an author. Her ear for poetic recitation, in which he himself was remarkably excellent, inspired the pleasure he felt to nurse her in the lap of the Muses. At three years old, before she could read, he had taught her to lisp the Allegro of Milton; and in her ninth she was able to speak by rote the three first books of Paradise Lost, with that variety of accent necessary to give grace and effect to the manly harmonies of that poem. She has been heard to say that its sublime images, the alternate grandeur and beauty of its numbers, perpetually filled her infant eyes with tears of delight, while she performed the parental task by daily committing a portion of them to memory.

Mr. Seward brought from the university of Cambridge, and always retained, rich stores of classic knowledge from the Greek and Latin languages; but while he wished to improve the hereditary talent of his daughter, he had the good sense to perceive that the English tongue produces the best models of fine writing, both in prose and verse; that she might drink from the purest fountains of epic and lyric poetry, in Milton and Gray; and from the dramatic, from the deepest, fullest, and richest sources, in the pages of Shakespeare. He was often heard to say that intimacy with Homer, Virgil, and Horace, never enabled any person to write English verse well; that where Nature had sown the germ of poetic genius, they can only be well cultivated in the bowers of the *English Muses*.

For an account of the experiments her father practised upon her ability to write verse in infancy, and for the criterion of them extended by the celebrated Dr. Darwin, of Derby, then resident

resident physician at Litchfield, in her sixteenth year, see Anecdotes of Miss Seward in the European Magazine for April 1782. The poem which was the result of Dr. Darwin's trial is there inserted at length. Those anecdotes, we are told, were collected from the information of a lady lately deceased, to whom from her birth she had been intimately known, and who always continued one of the most affectionate of her friends.

Passing the first seven years of her existence at Eyam, and often, as her youthful summers rolled away, residing some weeks with her beloved father in that Alpine village, she has been heard to observe, that the romantic sublimities of that country increased her native enthusiasm, inspiring even in infancy a pensive luxury of sensation, ever after attached to her survey of wild and lonely scenery, amid the savage grandeur of rocks and mountains. And to a local situation thus congenial, we no doubt are indebted for some of those enchanting touches of fancy and feeling which characterize so many of her poems, and particularly her sonnets.

Likewise Macpherson's noble translation of the old Caledonian bard, of whose originality no labour, or testimony of *prejudice* has induced her to doubt, against the force of her internal evidence, could not fail to vibrate every chord of an imagination whose early impressions witnessed the fidelity to nature, which marks its solitary landscapes; nor could a heart so affectionate peruse undelighted the blended gentleness and greatness of the sentiments.

Often also does she acknowledge that her taste for the picturesque and exalted writing, no less than to the noblest of our poets, is indebted to compositions which have neither measure nor rhyme, nor yet assume the elevated style of the orient, but which possess the essence of the best poetry, dramatic spirit, and Shakespearian truth of character; conversations and letters, which disclose the latent and subtle motives of human actions with force and truth, superior even to our best moral essayists,

essayists, and adorned with historic and classic allusions, strokes of description, that bring every scene and every person of the volumes distinctly to the eye, and sentiments of resistless power to awaken piety, and to energize virtue. Readers who know impartially to appreciate literary excellence, will need not to be told that the works alluded to are the Clarissa and the Grandison of Richardson.

It has been already observed, that Anna Seward's progress in the composition of verse met the chillness of maternal discouragement; and her father, as she grew up to womanhood, was induced to withdraw the animating welcome he had given her early muse. Thus repressed, she might be said during some years to hang her own poetic lyre upon the willows, or at least awakened it only at short and seldom-returning intervals, devoting much of her time to fancied needle-works, and the gay amusement of her juvenile companions. A genius, however, so rich and potent might be suspended, but not extinguished; and irrestrainable was the ardour she felt to peruse, with discriminating attention, the writings of our finest poets.

> "Aonian song was yet her *first* pursuit,
> Its harp had rung to her advent'rous hand."

Although it seemed her destiny to remain in a great degree stationary at Litchfield, she found too many resources in her own energies and varied employments to regret that circumstance. Her youthful excursions were chiefly into Derbyshire with her father, Mr. Seward's ill health almost precluding other journies. When at twenty she became the only child of a mother sorrowing over the untimely grave of one of the most amiable young women that ever blest the parental wishes, her almost continual presence at Litchfield grew more indispensable.

Soon after this deplored event, the beautiful and intelligent Miss Honora Sneyd, who from the age of five had been educated in Mr. Seward's family, rose into womanhood. Her sweet society and recompensing friendship rendered several

ensuing years animated and interesting. To young women thus dear to each other, thus congenial in their inclinations and pursuits, Litchfield was the Abyssinian vale, while its delights were unembittered by any of those restless wishes that induced the Pekuah of Rasselas to sigh for emigration.

To friendship, to music, which till her twenty-third year she had not been permitted to learn, and to once again partaken delights of the library, Miss Seward dedicated those years which she often called golden; but they became gloomed long ere the meridian of her life by the loss of her passionately beloved Honora's society, recalled to the family of her own father, Mr. Sneyd. Two years afterwards that charming young woman married Mr. Edgeworth, of Ireland, and became lost to her Anna Seward. She was seven years a wife, and died a few months before her maternal friend Mrs. Seward, in the year 1780, aged only twenty-seven.

Miss Seward's confinement to Litchfield became more strict than ever from the death of her mother, in July 1780, till the period of her father's life, in March 1790, in his eighty-first year: since, in the first twelvemonth after the death of his wife, he, who had till then been strong and healthy, became subject to paralytic and apoplectic seizures, enduring seven or eight annually; each sudden and violent; each threatening instant death; so that his struggling against them ten years, at so advanced a period of life, was miraculous. Beneath their pressures the energies of his mind gradually sunk, and melancholy was this consciousness to an affectionate daughter, who with her own pious hand administered all his food and medicines with assiduous care; watching every presaging appearance, that she might offer those cordial assistances necessary to support the vital powers in their approaching conflict. Except beneath the paroxysm, of which on recovery from it no recollection remained, she had the comfort of perceiving that her aged nursling had little bodily suffering, and no disquietude of spirits, and of hearing him hourly express the tenderest

derest satisfaction in her cares and attention. He felt that she fondly loved him, and was fervently solicitous to preserve his life; and those are balmy convictions to a parent's heart in declining life.

Respecting the temper and manners of the subject of this memoir, however partial may be the attachment of its author, the testimonies of Miss Seward's enemies may be quoted for all of praise which friendship shall here bestow. Enemies she had both personal and literary, though lasting resentment, except towards experienced treachery, she is not capable of feeling; but her sense of injury is too quick and keen; her frankness too unguarded, her talents too eminent, her attachment too zealous, not to have created enemies. Misinformation, however, may sometimes induce a person of this ardency of character, rich as it is, to convert a real friend into a supposed enemy, and various circumstances may seem to confirm such an idea, which may nevertheless be utterly unfounded.

The reviser of this article can attest the truth of this assertion by an assisting fact: having been himself enrolled in the black list as an anonymous, though public foe to the merits and genius which he has incessantly admired and applauded; and though the prejudice which has hence been established has subsisted for a series of years, and perhaps subsists still, the accused has never slackened either in public or private expression of his praise, because, though he deprecated the slander, he remains unchanged in his opinion as to the merit.

That her friendships have ever been disinterested and steady, those who love her least will not deny; neither will they assert that pride, ostentation, or avarice mark her character, or that satire or envy embitter her conversation. Though too sincere to flatter, she loves to praise; assumes no superiority over those with whom she converses; never aiming to dazzle the unlettered by any display of knowledge, or to repress their frank communications to her by the mute arrogance of reserve. If unpolitely treated, she takes no revenge by retaliated un-

politeness, contented with ceasing to seek the society of those whose latent ill-will towards her thus discovers itself. On these occasions she seeks to emulate the love-recorded conduct of Lord Lyttelton's Lucy,

> "Who, injur'd, or offended, never tried
> Her dignity by vengeance to maintain
> But by magnanimous disdain."

When any attempt is made by people of talent, either in small or large companies, to lead conversation upon the higher ground of moral disquisition, or the works of genius, or the now universally momentous theme of the national welfare, she follows that lead with glad alacrity, pleased to assist in tracing the meanders of the human mind, the sources of exalted or of mean actions, and in discriminating the difference and degrees of genius. It is then that she is always found ardent and ingenuous, but impartial. Does her friend publish feebly, and is his work the theme? she tries rather to change the subject, than to endeavour to support defect or mediocrity by encomium. Has her foe produced a fine or beautiful composition, she feels every charm of the page, and brings forward to the observation of the ingenious every obvious and latent beauty, superior to literary jealousy, the frequent misery of authors, and always distinguishing between merits of the heart and the head.

Though she is chearful, and often gay, in conversation, and enjoys the wit of others, if it is not spleenful, yet has she always rather checked than encouraged in herself that dangerous talent; nor can any temptation betray her into sarcasm, which she maintains is only produced by the hateful combination of a bad temper, a shrewd head, and a corrupt heart.

So little native is the desire of public *eclat* in her mind, that she never thought of sending any composition of her's in search for it, till she became accidentally acquainted with the late Lady Miller, of Bath Easton, by whose persuasiou she was induced to write for the poetic institution of that villa, and to become

become a candidate for its myrtle wreath; and as might be naturally expected, she obtained it repeatedly. The prize poems were published and adopted from Bath Easton volume into other public prints, with the names of the authors; and thus the Rubicon was passed. Early the next year, 1780, her noble Elegy on Captain Cooke was given to the world, and a sublime Ode to the Sun subjoined on the bright unwintered year 1779.

These poems meeting a flattering reception, she was encouraged to pour impassioned regrets on the public ear, the ensuing spring, for the cruel fate of her gallant and amiable friend Major André. Her monody on him, and also her elegy on Captain Cooke, involving a series of events, the most important in the lives of their heroes, formed a new species of funeral song. Dr. Darwin used to tell her she was the inventress of epic elegy.

When the beautiful monody on André was written, the prevailing opinion condemned General Washington as having needlessly sacrificed him to a barbarous revenge. Affectionate regret caught the fever of popular misconception, and induced her to anathematize the conduct, in that disastrous transaction, of the first public character of the age. It is now understood that General Washington could not avoid giving his sanction to that inflexible court-martial, which decreed ignominious death to the heroic martyr in the cause of his country. A few years back intelligence came to our author, from the first authority, that the General before sentence was passed endeavoured to snatch Major André from his impending doom, and would have succeeded, if a too nice scruple of honour on the part of the prisoner had not prevailed over the desire of life. Thus has she long felt, and generously acknowledged the misguided zeal of her muse, and learnt to revere the memory of that great man, benignant as intrepid, who wished in vain to have saved from his lamented fate, the too adventrous excellence she loved.

The writings of Miss Seward have been various and rich;

and, in general, her subjects are as happily designed as executed. A due mixture of pathos and sublimity, softness and strength, characterises her muse, whose effusions are warm, yet chaste, ardent, yet correct. Her tribute to the memory of Lady Miller has lofty claims. That lady died July 1781, in the meridian of her days. Her virtues and patronage of the poetic art seemed to demand the rising song of funeral eulogy, even more than her beautiful institution of the poetic vase. This was an auspicious theme; and our author has managed the solemn dirge with uncommon skill and melody. We regret our want of room to adduce more than a single stanza in proof; but that single gem is eminently brilliant.

"Ye Sister Nine, that weep departed worth,
Pour from your echoing strings the soothing lay,
Chaunt the slow requiem o'er the hallow'd earth,
That hides your Laura's life-deserted clay!
Hides the cold heart, that glow'd with all your fire,
The hand, that deckt with wreaths your many-chorded lyre."

In the year 1784 Miss Seward's poetical novel, Louisa, appeared, and is perhaps the most popular of all her compositions: it is now in the fifth edition. It is a performance perfectly new in its design and execution, being the first novel in English verse which the country has to boast, at least the first in verse that promises to be immortal. The story is extremely interesting; the situations have dramatic effect; the sentiments are just, impressive, and exquisitely pathetic. It abounds with landscape-painting, not drawn from books, but from Nature.

The return of the great and good Elliot from Gibraltar, in 1787, drew from the same pen an Epic Ode, which its author estimates in poetic value, above all her writings, and perhaps justly, and is highly appropriate to the immediate situation of the country. It opens with an invocation to rescued Britain to meet, with ardent gratitude and triumphant praise, the hero,

"Whose dauntless prowess, in resplendent rays,"

restored her olive.

The

The poem then reverts to the advantage which the abilities and bravery of her generals had procured for this nation in the present century; the victories of the Duke of Marlborough, the Duke of Cumberland, and General Wolfe. That intrepid young hero is thus painted as sinking amid the shouts of the conquest he had obtained.

" Nor sacred less the youthful warrior's fame,
Dear-bought Quebec, upon thy plains beheld,
Who fallen, and bleeding, at the loud acclaim,
That hails Britannia mistress of the field,
That bids her crimson standard rise
Victorious in the echoing skies,
Lifts the pale eye, a gleam of transport fires,
And, smiling on his wounds, triumphantly expires."

Eternal palms are invoked for the memory of those distinguished men; and were the author to continue the panegyric, or strike the martial lyre, how would the sublime chords vibrate to the glory of British heroes of more recent date, our Duncans, Vincents, Nelsons, Smiths, &c. &c. ?

This admirable ode concludes with a poetic and patriotic wish, expressed with all the inspiring ardour of the muse of Anna Seward:

" May the blessings which await
Honour to the lap of peace,
Industrious soldier, make thy future fate,
Bloom like thy virtues, with thy years increase!
Long may'st thou benignly see
Britannia, generous, brave, and free,
Wide o'er the world, as in her laurel'd prime,
Dart the commanding glance, and lift the brow sublime."

In the long interval between this ode and the appearance of her late poetic collection, our author lost her beloved father, in March 1790, at the age of eighty-one. The spring following she published her Llangollen-vale, with other poems subjoined; the Vale, thrice consecrated, by valour, by love, and

by friendship; a poem whose fate it was to be criticised by one, who discovered that neither our author, nor by consequence Dr. Johnson, knew the meaning of the word *thrill*, since the definition in his dictionary exactly corresponds with all the use she has ever made of that word. The poems which accompany Llangollen-vale are, one written on the coast of Hayle; another describing Wrexham, and the inhabitants of its environs; next a Runic poem, built on a terrific and sublime idea, from the Norse poetry, given in vulgar prose by Dr. Hicks. Our author has invested the rude tale with circumstances which render it intelligible without departing from the grand and wild character of Runic verse. That composition is contrasted by one of a softer complexion, written on revisiting her native village: it expresses filial regret, and breathes of the days that are flown. So also does the next, which describes those winter evenings that were gilded by the smiles of Honora. The collection is closed by six sonnets. They are given as specimens of that centenary of sonnets which have since appeared, with Horatian paraphrases subjoined, published by Sael in 1798, and infinitely to the honour of the unimpaired talents of the author. They were written during the course of more than twenty years, as their author's imagination became impressed by circumstances which excited emotion or reflection, or by scenery that might be described in that limit. Hence the subjects of this treasury of sonnets are various; they are of the legitimate order, and their measures as well as their spirit Miltonic.

Mr. Polwhele, among his various prose illustrations subjoined to his elegant poem of Unsexed Females, thus speaks of the fair object of this memoir: "Miss Seward's poems are thoughts that breathe, and words that burn; and he who hesitates to allow this lady a very first place among the female poets of the country, must be grossly deficient in taste. Her "Cooke," her "André," her "Louisa," are all first-rate performances. Either of these enchanting poems would be sufficient

cient to immortalize the name of Seward." In the same poem Mr. Polwhele has taken occasion to pay a poetical tribute to other eminent female writers of the present day, and we cannot resist the pleasure of a short extract, which justly compliments several of the first writers of the age; though we think Mr. Polwhele might have extended the panegyric by many other splendid names:

"Mark where the sex have oft in ancient days,
To modest virtue claim'd a nation's praise;
Chas'd from the public scene the fiend of strife,
And shed a radiance o'er luxurious life;
In silken fetters bound the obedient throng,
And soften'd despots by the power of song;
Yet won an owns a more extensive sway,
Where heaven's own graces pour the living ray;
And vast its influence, o'er the social ties,
By heaven inform'd if female genius rise,
Its power how vast, in critic wisdom sage,
If Montague refine a letter'd page;
And Carter with a milder air diffuse
The moral precept of the Grecian Muse;
If Seward sting with rapture every vein,
Or gay Piozzi sport in lighter strain;
If Burney mix with sparkling humour chaste,
Delicious feelings and the purest taste;
Or Radcliffe wrapt in necromantic gloom
The impervious forest, and the mystic dome;
If Beauclerk paint Lenora's spectre horse,
The uplifted lance of Death the grisly corse,
And e'en a Princess lend poetic grace,
The pencil's charm, and breathe in every trace."

Miss Seward is now advancing in life. She was extremely captivating in her youth, in point even of personal attraction, and still bears the marks of a lovely woman. Her eyes were of uncommon lustre, expressing at once power of intellect and sensibility of heart; and her voice, both in speaking and reciting,

ing, is distinguished by sweetness and energy. She sings, both in the sportive and pathetic style, with much judgment and feeling: her address is elegant, and her manners are at the same time courteous and commanding. Miss Seward's conversation is like her composition, full of fire and fancy, tempered by softness; and her society, therefore, exemplifies and illustrates

"The feast of reason, and the flow of soul."

Miss Seward has recently employed herself in writing memoirs of her departed friend the late eminent Dr. Darwin, whose admiration she possessed during life.

We will close our account of this distinguished lady with an animated sonnet she has very lately given to the public, to an amiable young writer, who is every way deserving of her praise.

SONNET,

Addressed to Wm. Dimond, Esq.
Written after perusing his "Hero of the North."

"Hail to the bard, with native genius blest,
Who breathes *new* impulse to our British choir,
Who roves through Fancy's maze, with soul possest,
And twines with roses the historic lyre!
Bright Dimond! as I trace thy glowing page
Young joys awake in many a thrilling throng;
In thee the minstrels of an happier age
New voice assume, and swell their boldest song!
The Sister Muses with contending love,
Thy favor'd harp of mingled notes inspire,
And bid its sounding strings alternate move
With Otway's softness, and with Dryden's fire.
Proceed, thou gifted youth, and o'er thy way
A nation's hand shall weave its *greenest bay!*"

Anna Seward.

THOMAS

THOMAS LEWIS O'BEIRNE, D. D.

BISHOP OF MEATH.*

THE subject of this memoir furnishes an additional name to grace the catalogue of those truly illustrious characters, who, by their private and public virtues, have triumphed over every opposition, and raised themselves to honourable eminence in society.

The great reverse of situation which his family had experienced from one of those revolutions which so frequently affect the fortunes of nations and individuals, and of which we have had so many affecting instances in our own day, was not the only obstacle which Dr. Beirne had to surmount. Born and educated within the pale of the Roman Catholic church, he had, at first, to overcome the spirit of religious prejudice, carefully infused into a tender mind, and afterwards to contend with the force of public opinion, which is not apt to give credit to the professions of those who renounce an old, and unexpectedly embrace a new system of worship. He has, however, completely succeeded in impressing the public mind with a firm conviction of the purity of his motives; and the natural mildness of his temper, unperverted by the rancorous impulse of a new-born zeal, has excited regret, without censure, in the members of the religion that lost him, and admiration, without envy, in the reverend teachers of the faith which he now professes.

Dr. O'Beirne was born at Farnagh, in the county of Long-

* We are happy in this place to have it in our power to bestow several important corrections upon the memoirs of this respectable Prelate, and are concerned to find that in the former account some inaccuracies were admitted relative to material points connected with the early part of his lordship's life and his connexions.

ford,

ford, in the year 1749. The O'Beirnes of Dangan, in the county of Roscommon, of whom he is now the chief, ranked from the earliest times to the period of the revolution among the most ancient and respectable of the Irish families of the province of Connaught, and were originally a branch of the O'Connors. It appears from the records of the Herald's-office in Dublin, that as early as the reign of King John, John O'Beirne, sirnamed Barnveal, or the Hairlipped, was seated at Dangan; a great favourite of the king's, and endowed with immense possessions; and on the same records is a genealogy containing a regular descent of heirs male, with their different intermarriages, from this John to Francis O'Beirne of Dangan, who at the time of the revolution forfeited the inheritance of his family for the second time, in the cause of the unfortunate Stuarts. Under Cromwell's usurpation he had attended Charles the Second through all his fortunes, and in the Act of Settlement he is restored to his estates, among those who are there enumerated as having given that proof of unshaken loyalty and attachment to the exiled monarch. When the battle of Aughrim, in which he fought, had given the last blow to all the expectations of the adherents of James, he retired into Spain with his wife and children, and was received at that court in a manner becoming his birth and connections. His two daughters were taken into the family of the queen dowager in quality of maids of honour, and in that station the elder, a woman of uncommon beauty, had the misfortune to be beloved by the famous Duke of Wharton, and the still greater misfortune to return his love. Notwithstanding the decided opposition of her royal mistress, she persisted in her determination to marry this "outcast of each church and state," and was that wife to whose fate Pope alludes in the well known line in his character of Clodio,

"A tyrant to the very wife he loved."

Her brother married a noble Spaniard, and two ladies descended from him are still living in Spain; the only remains of that branch of the family.

John,

John, second brother to Francis, on this subversion and dispersal of his family, took refuge among his relations the O'Farrells, of the county of Longford, one of whom, the daughter of O'Farrell of Aughanaspeak, he married, and was killed in his own house by a party of rapparees, leaving his widow with two sons in their childhood. Of these, Thomas, the elder, was sent to receive his education in Spain, from whence he returned titular Bishop of Ardagh. Dennis, the younger, applied to the study of physic; but practising in an obscure part of the country, and having the prejudices of the times to contend with, he procured but a scanty subsistence for a wife and a numerous family. Similarity of circumstances, and alliances formed in better days, had made him acquainted with Catherine the daughter of Ross O'Farrell, the head of the distinguished and wealthy house of Moat Farrell, who had suffered in the general wreck of the revolution, and by his marriage with this lady, who lived to the very advanced age of ninety-nine, he had three sons and several daughters. Of the sons, two became Roman catholic priests. Lewis, the youngest, married Margaret O'Meagher, grand-daughter to Colonel Edmund O'Meagher, of Cloona, in the county of Tipperary; a woman of a very superior mind and understanding, and whose memory is still reverenced by all who knew her. The issue of this marriage were four sons and two daughters. Dennis, the second son, was originally designed for the profession of physic, and was sent to Paris in that view in the year 1765. But having a mind strongly tinctured with devotion, he entered into orders, and was parish-priest of Temple Michael, when Doctor O'Beirne became rector of it in 1791, on resigning his preferments in England. John, the third brother, served the office of high sheriff of the county of Longford, and commanded the light infantry company in the militia of that county during the whole of the last war. He is married to Miss Peacocke, daughter of Sir Joseph Peacocke, Bart. of the county of Clare, and niece to Lord Castle Coote,

Coote, and Sir Eyre Coote. Andrew, the fourth brother, died an officer in the East India Company's service.

Thomas Lewis, the eldest son, whose life we are writing, was sent at the age of seven years to the diocesan school of Ardagh, then held in the town of Longford, by the Rev. Thomas Hynes, one of the most celebrated scholars of his day. Under the tuition of this worthy man he continued until the class to which he belonged went off to Trinity College, Dublin, in the year 1763. At this time peace being concluded with France, he was sent by his father, and an uncle who always lived and shared his income with him, to Paris, and entered under the care of Dr. O'Kelly, into what was called the Irish community, from its admitting young persons destined for other pursuits and professions, as well as for the Romish ministry, to which the college of Lombard, in the same enclosure, was exclusively devoted. From this seminary he attended the public course of academic studies in the college of Plessis, and was annually crowned, as well at the public distribution of prizes at that college, as in the university at large, until he concluded his year of rhetoric in the year 1767. At this time he fell into so bad a state of health, that he was advised by the physicians to try his native air, and in the beginning of the summer of 1768, he accompanied Mr. Usher, the ingenious author of Clio, or, a Discourse upon Taste, as far as London, from whence he shortly after returned to his father's house, after an absence of five years. Having in the course of the ensuing autumn and winter completely re-established his health, he once more quitted the paternal roof to return to Paris, with an intention to apply himself to the study of physic; but having remained for some months in London, he there formed connections, and adopted ideas, that changed the whole tenor of his life.

The first circumstance that led to the part he has since acted was the acquaintance and patronage of that worthy encourager of talents and merit wherever he discovered them, the

the late Dr. Hinchliffe, Bishop of Peterborough. To this prelate he was first introduced, we believe, at Mr. Bouverie's, at Delapre-abbey, near Northampton, and he afterwards improved his acquaintance with him at Lord Northampton's at Castle Ashby. An exposition which he drew up of his reasons for having renounced the errors of popery, gave such satisfaction to Dr. Hinchliffe, that he communicated it to Dr. Cornwallis, then Archbishop of Canterbury, and, with his Grace's concurrence, he encouraged Mr. O'Beirne publicly to read his recantation, as a necessary previous step to his admission to orders. With this recommendation Mr. O'Beirne chearfully complied, and between the morning prayer and the communion service, standing under the screen of All Saints church, in Northampton, he solemnly renounced the errors of the church of Rome.

From this time the Bishop never ceased to give him the most convincing proofs of his friendship. Under his auspices he was entered of Trinity College, Cambridge, of which his lordship was then master. He admitted him to orders as soon as he was of age, and immediately on his receiving priesthood, procured him the vicarage of Grundon, in Northamptonshire, that belonged to Trinity College; and at length when, in the year 1776, Lord Howe was appointed commissioner and commander in chief in the expedition to America, and had applied to Dr. Hinchliffe to recommend a clergyman to him, who should not only live in his own family, as chaplain to his flag, but be qualified to assist him in whatever steps he might be encouraged to take relative to an establishment for the episcopal church in America, his lordship instantly thought of his young friend, and placed him in the situation that may be said to have led to all his future fortunes.

The calamitous fire which happened at New York in 1776, supplied him with an opportunity of displaying the doctrines of Christianity in the most edifying and consolatory manner. To make the precept and practice of the gospel go hand in hand

had

had been his constant study from the moment he entered into holy orders; and while he cultivated, in private, every mean within his power to soften the horrors and alleviate the miseries of war, he was appointed to preach in St. Paul's church, the only one in New York which had been preserved from the fury of the flames. His discourse on that melancholy occasion has been often mentioned as the effusion of a mind animated with the purest sentiments of charity and brotherly love, and it has been justly praised as a composition remarkable for dignified and pathetic eloquence.

On his return from America, when the conduct of Lord Howe, with respect to the direction and execution of military operations, became the subject of general animadversion and parliamentary enquiry, and was boldly censured in newspapers and pamphlets, supposed to be written by persons in high credit and confidence with ministry; Dr. O'Beirne came forward in defence of his friend, and published a pamphlet in vindication of his conduct, that had an extensive circulation, and was extolled by the adherents of the general and admiral.

In thus vindicating the character of his noble friend, he was necessarily led to consider the conduct of the admiralty as far as it was connected with his subject, and in this part of the pamphlet he carried the war with such success into the enemy's quarters; he placed their inattention to the information they had received of the designs of the court of France, of their armaments and their destination, in so strong a light, and so forcibly exposed their ignorance and incapacity in the disposition of the force which they were at length driven to send to Lord Howe's relief, that he attracted the observation of the leaders of opposition; and through the means of his steady patron and friend Dr. Hinchliffe, he was first introduced to Lord Fitzwilliam; and through his Lordship to Mr. Burke, the Duke of Portland, and the rest of the party.

About this time, he was presented by Lord Thurlow to the vicarage of West Deeping, in Lincolnshire, on the application of

of Lord Howe, and this was the only instance of his lordship's patronage which he ever had to acknowledge. It was not that he ever relaxed in his attachment to that great man, or that he had ever forfeited his friendship. The writer of this has reason to believe that Lord Howe never knew that the defence of his conduct, which had so much contributed to put his enemies to silence, had been written by his chaplain. Yet he always took a warm interest in Mr. O'Beirne's welfare; and if their former connexion was not renewed on Lord Howe's accepting the command of the channel fleet, it was because the circumstances were different; and other prospects were opened to Mr. O'Beirne from his connections with the new administration.

No sooner had Lord Fitzwilliam made Mr. O'Beirne known to his friends than he zealously engaged in their service. His first essay was in the *Englishman*, a periodical paper that united all the talents of the party; and if we are not misinformed, the last three numbers are to be ascribed to him. He next engaged in the *Country Gentleman*, the signature under which he wrote a series of letters that appeared regularly in a paper then printed by Almon. In this work, according to Almon's information in a late publication, in which he has inserted four of these numbers, he received no other assistance than one letter from the elegant pen of Mr. Burke, jun. Shortly after appeared the substance of a charge of mismanagement against the first lord of the admiralty, on the motion of Mr. Fox in the house of commons. This was a kind of brief drawn up under the direction of Lord Keppel, from which Mr. Fox produced that charge that first shook Lord North's administration, leaving him in a majority of only sixteen. His other political productions, as far as our information goes, was a defence of Lord Keppel, in a pamphlet entitled Considerations on Naval Courts-martial; Letters to Commodore Johnston, under the signature of Blake, on his engagement with Suffrein, in Port Praya Road; a short His-

tory of the late Parliament; Considerations on the late Disturbances, by a consistent Whig; the Source of the Evil, in four letters, written on the dissolution of the Duke of Portland's administration; an Answer to the Treasury Pamphlet on the Irish Propositions, to which Mr. Chalmers wrote a reply, as if written by Mr. Burke; and a Letter to a Friend in Ireland on the Fourth Proposition. He was a member of the club from which issued the Roliad, the Probationary Odes, &c. &c.; but we do not believe that he contributed any part towards these celebrated compositions, except a few epigrams, and the probationary ode ascribed to Dr. Wharton.

In March 1782, when the Rockingham party came into power, Dr. O'Beirne accompanied the Duke of Portland, his avowed patron, then appointed lord-lieutenant of Ireland, to that country as his private secretary. He was also nominated one of his chaplains. But it unfortunately happened that his Grace had not, from the short duration of his government, which did not last quite four months, any opportunity of providing, as he wished, for his reverend *protégé*.

An anecdote related of Dr. O'Beirne, during his residence in Ireland, as private secretary to the lord-lieutenant, and with the authenticity of which we have good reasons to be satisfied, will more fully lay open the secret recesses of his heart than a thousand volumes written by panegyrists, whose only documents are the actions of his public life. One of his oldest acquaintances, of the name of Hagarty, who had been for many years employed in the excise, was superannuated, and obliged to retire, with a large family, on the miserable salary of ten pounds per annum. He had heard of the Doctor's preferment, and was advised to solicit his interest. Though he at first declined the advice, from motives of despair or bashfulness, necessity at length silenced his scruples, and he sent a letter to the secretary. Dr. O'Beirne immediately dispatched a messenger for him, received him in the most friendly manner, and assured him, "that, though he had never applied

plied to the lord-lieutenant for a favour, he would do so on the present occasion, both on account of their former acquaintance, and the distress to which a numerous and helpless family was exposed. If he succeeded, Hagarty should of course be replaced on the establishment; if not, he would cheerfully allow him a yearly sum out of his private purse equal to what he had received when in full employment." It is almost needness to add that he did succeed, and that poor Hagarty and his family were rescued from ruin.

The death of the Marquis of Rockingham having led to the dissolution of the administration formed under his auspices, the Duke of Portland was succeeded in the government of Ireland by the Marquis of Buckingham, then Earl Temple, in July 1782, and returned to London with his private secretary and chaplain. His Grace, now perfectly convinced, from his experience in Irish affairs, of the Doctor's talents for political business, employed his pen and had recourse to his advice on almost every important occasion. He was initiated in all the mysteries of Opposition, and assisted at several secret conferences held by its leaders. He became peculiarly attached to Mr. Fox, and we are enabled to state, that his admiration of that great statesman's powers and virtues has not been diminished by the extraordinary changes which have since appeared to take place in political sentiment.

The idea of the ever-memorable coalition was then suggested as the only certain mode of hurling from the helm of power rivals, who had dared to intercept and monopolize the fruits of so many painful, but successful, labours; who had presumed to appropriate to themselves the spoils of that political *Troy*, which had only fallen after a desperate siege of ten years, and in the breaches of which *they* had not ventured to expose themselves, until a triumphant entrance was no longer doubtful. It was accordingly agreed to, and succeeded. But the victory was transient; and even the moment of exultation was darkened with prognostics of speedy disappointment and defeat.

When the Duke of Portland was raised to the important office of first lord of the treasury, in April 1783, he appointed Dr. O'Beirne his private secretary. He performed the duties of the situation with great industry for upwards of eight months, when the coalition was, in its turn, divested of authority and compelled to retire. He had not, however, been neglected by his patron. In January he had been appointed chaplain to the king, and, on the day previous to the nomination of Mr. Pitt as first lord of the treasury, he was put into possession of two livings in Northumberland and Cumberland, valued at nearly seven hundred pounds a year, which were in the gift of government. The manner in which these livings were conferred on him, both by the zealous interference of his noble patron and the prompt assistance of a noble lord now very high in legal honours, served to inspire him with additional ardour in support of his political friends.

In the winter of 1785 his health was so materially injured, that after having taken the waters of Bath for some time to no purpose, he was recommended by his physicians to try the air of the continent; and he spent the spring and summer of the following year at the Duke of Richmond's seat at Aubigne, in Berry. In this excursion he was accompanied by his lady, to whom he had been married in November 1783 at St. Margaret's church, Westminster. She was the only surviving child of Colonel Francis Stuart, brother to the Earl of Moray, lineally descended from the Duke of Albany, son to Robert the Third of Scotland, and by the marriage of his ancestor with the only child of the regent Moray, still more nearly allied to the royal line of Stuart. By this lady he has a son and two daughters.

His visit to the continent did not answer his expectations, and he was advised to repeat the trial which in his earlier life had proved so successful. He therefore proceeded, on his return from France, with his family to his mother's in Ireland, where he once again experienced the efficacy of his native air, and

and being encouraged by the recovery of his health to accept the offer which, in compliment to the Duke of Portland, was made him of the rich benefices of Temple Michael and Mohill by the then Archbishop of Tuam, he resigned his livings in Northumberland, and settled in Ireland for life.

In this situation of a minister of the parish in which he was born, he remained till Lord Fitzwilliam undertook the lord-lieutenancy of Ireland, when his lordship called him up to Dublin, appointed him his private secretary and first chaplain, and in a few weeks promoted him to the see of Ossory, from whence, in Lord Cornwallis's administration, he was translated to the see of Meath, worth five thousand pounds a year, and made a privy counsellor in Ireland.

Bishop O'Beirne was among the most active and zealous of those who supported the measures and promoted the principles of the Fitzwilliam administration. He was particularly so in furtherance of what seemed to be the primary object of the viceroy, the emancipation, as it was called, of the Catholics; for, though Bishop O'Beirne is a convert to the faith of Protestantism, he is not at all actuated by that outrageous zeal against the faith which he has renounced, which generally marks the proselyte. He not only approved that measure, but took up his pen in defence of it, and pleaded the cause of the Catholics with his accustomed energy and pathos. When Lord Fitzwilliam was removed from office, and the character and measures of his administration came to be canvassed with rather a severe and acrimonious spirit in the Irish house of peers, Bishop O'Beirne stood forward with honest warmth and distinguished ability in defence of his absent, and, as he conceived, injured patron. His speech in the house of lords on that occasion, was reckoned among the best which have been delivered in that assembly.

Whatever difference of opinion may exist with respect to his political life, his exemplary conduct in discharging the sacred functions of his present dignified office has united every

sentiment in his favour. He delivered a charge to the clergy of his diocese of Ossory, which is, perhaps, unexampled in point of pastoral simplicity and apostolic doctrine. He made a solemn declaration, that, in the ecclesiastical promotions which were at his disposal, he should be influenced by the merits of the candidates only. He instituted monthly lectures, on topics of religious controversy and subjects selected from the History of the Church, while Chapters from the New Testament were occasionally translated, and the most approved commentators and expositors were carefully consulted. It was not uncommon, during these lectures, to see them attended by clergymen from a distance of twenty or thirty miles, who probably had not for twenty or thirty years looked into the original text. But while he exacted a punctual attention to duties, peculiarly necessary in a country where the sophistry of the church of Rome was either thought unworthy of the honour of a contest, or was allowed to triumph, without opposition, over the blind credulity of her disciples, and the frequent ignorance of her opponents, he constantly distinguished himself by his attention to the interests of the clergy under his jurisdiction. His house and table were always open to them, particularly to those of the inferior order; and he has never been reproached with neglecting any opportunity to reward the claims of merit, however destitute of recommendation.

As a preacher, Dr. O'Beirne ranks in the first class. His sermons seldom relate to the thorny points of controversial theology, which are more calculated to confound than to enlighten. He is generally satisfied with expatiating on the grand and essential doctrines of Christianity, and his diction is perspicuous, animated, and nervous. He is occasionally sublime, frequently pathetic, and always intelligible to his auditors. Though gifted with considerable powers of imagination, he studiously checks them when they seem to interfere in the pure fervency of devotion. He appears to have made it his great object,

"To

"To discipline his fancy, to command
The heart; and, by familiar accents, move
The Christian soul."——

The conduct of his lordship in private life has been ever distinguished for that liberality of heart and urbanity of manners which evince a just knowledge of the duties of society.

In 1799 his lordship collected and published, in one volume octavo, the different sermons which he had preached on public occasions, with three charges, including the one just mentioned, and a circular address to the clergy of his diocese. In 1801 the bishop preached the anniversary sermon at St. Paul's cathedral, for the charity schools, in which he took occasion to animadvert in severe terms upon the supposed neglect of religious instruction in our public seminaries. For this he was rather roughly handled by that profound scholar and able schoolmaster, Dr. Vincent, in a letter, which has made considerable noise, but which the bishop has not thought it prudent to answer. Besides the works already noticed, Dr. O'Beirne is the author of a poem entitled "The Crucifixion;" of an Ode to Lord Northampton, and the Generous Impostor; works which he has himself been often heard to say have been deservedly consigned to oblivion.

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